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NORTH CAROLINA
Crop & Livestock
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Phone (919) 755-4394

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5-FR78-1

Semi-Monthly

FARROWING INTENTIONS INCREASE

Intentions of North Carolina producers are to increase farrowings by 15 percent during December 1977-February 1978 and by 25 percent during March-May 1978.

North Carolina farrowings increased 23 percent during the past three months to 106,000 from the same quarter a year earlier. The June-August 1977 farrowings also showed an increase over the previous year's quarter of 11 percent to 123,000. The average number of pigs per litter saved remained unchanged from last year at 7.10 for September-November and 7.50 for June-August.

Hog producers in North Carolina had an estimated 2,300,000 hogs and pigs on hand December 1, 1977. This was an increase of 19 percent from the previous year.

U. S. hog producers intend to farrow 6.6 million sows during December 1977-May 1978 period, an increase of 9 percent from the same period a year earlier. (See Table on Page 7.)

1978 LAND UTILIZATION SURVEY

The 1978 Land Utilization Survey is now in progress in most counties. All landowners of tracts of 10 or more acres are urged to cooperate with their County officials and the North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service in conducting this survey.

In most counties, landowners will report their 1977 land use to the township listers. However, some counties are conducting the survey by mail. In 18 counties, the Crop and Livestock Reporting Service will use a sampling method also by mail.

NORTH CAROLINA PRICES RECEIVED INDEX HIGHER

The 'All Farm Products' index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets during December is 174, up 2 points from November and also from December 1976.

The 'All Crops' index rose 2 points from November. Grains and commercial vegetables were both up 11 points to 165 and 195 respectively. Oil bearing crops, at 207, increased 4 points.

The 'Livestock and Livestock Products' index was up 2 points from the November index. Meat animals rose 10 points, while poultry dropped 1 point. (See Table on Page 2.)

FARM NUMBERS CONTINUE TO DROP

The number of farms in North Carolina for 1978 is estimated at 115,000. This is a drop of 2,000 farms from a year earlier and continues the downward trend. Total land in farms also shows a gradual drop from 15,200,000 acres in 1970 to 14,000,000 acres in 1973 to 13,100,000 acres in 1978. While farm numbers have declined, the average size of farm has slowly increased. In the last eight years, the average Tar Heel farm has gone from 101 acres in 1970 to an estimate of 114 acres for 1978. (A farm is defined as an agricultural operation of 10 acres or more with sales of at least \$50 during the year, or less than 10 acres with at least \$250 in sales.)

(See Farm Numbers, Page 5.)

U. S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 2 POINTS PRICES PAID INDEX UP 1 POINT

The Index of Prices Received by U. S. farmers increased 2 points (1 percent) to 181 percent of its January-December 1967 average during the month ended December 15, 1977. Contributing most to the increase since mid-November were higher prices for hogs, cattle and corn. Lower prices for lettuce, oranges and tomatoes were partially offsetting. The index was 3 points (1½

percent) above a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates for December 15 was 203, up 1 point (½ percent) from mid-November. Higher prices for feed accounted for most of the increase. The index was 10 points (5 percent) higher than a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	Dec. 15 1974	Dec. 15 1975	Dec. 15 1976	Nov. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1977
NORTH CAROLINA					
Prices Received: All Farm Products....	<u>3/</u> 178	<u>3/</u> 172	172	172	174
All Crops.....	<u>3/</u> 183	<u>3/</u> 160	172	<u>3/</u> 172	174
Tobacco.....	169	<u>3/</u> 150	164	166	166
Oil Bearing.....	<u>3/</u> 217	<u>3/</u> 168	215	<u>3/</u> 203	207
Grains.....	243	189	166	<u>3/</u> 154	165
Commercial Vegetables.....	<u>3/</u> 185	<u>3/</u> 186	161	184	195
Fruits.....	<u>3/</u> 149	<u>3/</u> 169	200	212	180
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	170	193	172	173	175
Meat Animals.....	172	<u>3/</u> 214	166	180	190
Poultry.....	172	190	175	169	168
Dairy.....	159	170	172	<u>3/</u> 175	173
UNITED STATES					
Prices Received, All Farm Products.....	<u>3/</u> 178	<u>3/</u> 186	<u>3/</u> 178	<u>3/</u> 179	181
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services <u>1/</u> ..	<u>3/</u> 185	<u>3/</u> 184	<u>3/</u> 193	202	203
Parity Ratio <u>2/</u>	99	<u>3/</u> 101	<u>3/</u> 92	89	89

1/ Including Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. 3/ Revised.

CROP, LIVESTOCK AND FEED PRICES MOSTLY HIGHER

The average prices North Carolina farmers received for crops at local markets about mid-December were mostly higher. (See Table, Page 3.) Corn was up 16 cents per bushel to \$2.27, and oats increased 1 cent to \$1.39 per bushel. Soybeans, at \$5.83, decreased 2 cents per bushel from November.

Prices received for livestock were generally higher also. Hogs were up \$2.40 to \$41.50 per hundredweight. Beef cattle, at \$26.50, rose 80 cents per hundredweight and veal calves, at \$35.10,

increased \$2.20 per hundredweight. Milk cows dropped \$5.00 per head to \$345.00.

Feed prices paid by North Carolina farmers during December were mixed. (See Table, Page 3.) Pre-mixed dairy feed containing 16 percent protein was up \$5.00 per ton from November to \$143.00. Chick starter rose \$4.00 per ton to \$170.00, while broiler grower dropped \$3.00 to \$165.00 per ton. Laying feed was unchanged at \$146.00 per ton. Bran rose 30 cents to \$7.50 per hundredweight. Soybean meal (44 percent protein), was unchanged at \$11.50 per hundredweight.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		Dec. 15 1976	Nov. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1977*	Dec. 15 1976	Nov. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1977*
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	1.100	1.089	1.085	1.145	1.175	1.179
Corn.....	Bu.	2.28	2.11	2.27	2.24	2/ 1.88	1.98
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.39	2/ 2.46	2.47
Oats.....	Bu.	1.52	1.38	1.39	1.51	2/ 1.10	1.13
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.08	2/ 1.82	1.77
Sorghum Grains.	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.51	2/ 3.03	3.16
Soybeans.....	Bu.	6.55	5.85	5.83	6.56	2/ 5.61	5.68
Peanuts.....	Lb.	.201	.208	.223	.201	.204	.204
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.631	2/ .514	.488
Cottonseed....	Ton	-	-	-	103.00	71.00	67.00
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.695	.709	.721
Hogs.....	Cwt.	35.20	39.10	41.50	36.30	37.50	41.50
Beef Cattle....	Cwt.	25.40	25.70	26.50	32.40	34.60	35.70
Veal Calves....	Cwt.	30.90	32.90	35.10	32.80	37.00	37.80
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	340.00	350.00	345.00	480.00	519.00	522.00
Com'l. Broilers	Lb.	.190	.205	.200	.193	.210	.202
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.370	.440	.450	.335	.387	.403
Eggs 1/.....	Doz.	.776	.613	.619	.695	.513	.536
Milk, Whlse....	Cwt.	10.80	11.20	11.10	9.72	10.20	10.20
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	5.85	6.25	-	3.15	3.21	3.17
Sweet Potatoes.	Cwt.	4.50	8.20	9.90	8.00	9.49	11.30
Apples, Com'l..	Lb.	.105	.129	.095	.113	.124	.126
Hay, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	59.00	48.40	49.50
Alfalfa Hay....	Ton	-	-	-	62.70	50.30	51.50
Other.....	Ton	-	-	-	50.90	44.30	45.20

1/ Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers. 2/ Revised. * Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	Dec. 15 1976	Nov. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1976	Nov. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1977
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed						
14% Protein.....	141.00	130.00	133.00	133.00	123.00	127.00
16% Protein.....	145.00	138.00	143.00	145.00	129.00	135.00
32% Protein.....	192.00	193.00	198.00	209.00	189.00	194.00
Poultry Feeds						
Chick Starter.....	171.00	166.00	170.00	178.00	164.00	166.00
Broiler Grower....	175.00	168.00	165.00	174.00	159.00	160.00
Laying Feed <u>1/</u>	154.00	146.00	146.00	153.00	141.00	145.00
Turkey Grower <u>1/</u> ...	178.00	187.00	188.00	179.00	175.00	177.00
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products:						
Bran.....	7.80	7.20	7.50	7.78	6.93	7.20
Middlings.....	7.40	7.00	7.10	7.65	6.82	7.08
Corn Meal.....	6.50	5.70	5.90	6.40	5.30	5.47
High Protein Feeds						
Cottonseed Meal 41%	12.00	12.00	12.50	11.50	10.00	10.40
Soybean Meal 44%...	12.50	11.50	11.50	12.20	11.00	11.30

1/ Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

N. C. HATCHERY PRODUCTION DECREASES

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 28.4 million broiler-type chicks during November 1977. This is a 1 percent drop from November a year earlier. Egg-type hatch, at 530,000, dropped 24 percent from last year's 700,000.

In the United States, the hatch of broiler-type chicks at 282.0 million was

5 percent greater than November a year earlier. The egg-type hatch during November totaled 34.1 million, a decrease of 6 percent from November 1976. The number of eggs in incubators on December 1, 1977 for the South Atlantic States increased 9 percent for broiler-type and decreased 20 percent for egg-type.

CHICKS HATCHED -- NOVEMBER

STATE	BROILER-TYPE		1977 AS % OF	EGG-TYPE		1977 AS % OF
	1976	1977	1976	1976	1977	1976
<i>Thousands</i>						
North Carolina	28,631	28,367	99	700	530	76
South Carolina	2,134	2,927	137	478	642	134
Georgia	38,060	40,674	107	3,067	2,778	91
Florida	7,336	7,659	104	3,311	2,823	85
Delaware	13,402	14,012	105	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-
Maryland	17,317	17,291	100	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-
Virginia	7,800	9,067	116	574	454	79
UNITED STATES	267,894	281,969	105	36,305	34,051	94

1/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

U. S. POULT HATCH DOWN 2 PERCENT

The U. S. hatch of 6.0 million turkey poults during November was 2 percent below a year ago. The hatch of heavy breeds was up 11 percent from November 1976, but light breed poults hatched were down 52 percent.

The 10.6 million turkey eggs in incubators on December 1 were up 11 percent from a year earlier. Eggs set for heavy breed turkeys were up 22 percent from last year but light breeds were down 41 percent.

POULTS HATCHED -- NOVEMBER

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	HEAVY BREEDS <u>1/</u>		LIGHT BREEDS <u>2/</u>		ALL BREEDS		Percent Of Prev. Year
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	
<i>Thousands</i>							<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	0	72	6	0	6	72	-
East North Central	703	668	104	5	807	673	83
West North Central	1,173	1,454	643	357	1,816	1,811	100
South Atlantic	1,760	2,121	368	220	2,128	2,341	110
South Central	588	348	0	0	588	348	59
West	598	707	144	24	742	731	99
UNITED STATES	4,822	5,370	1,265	606	6,087	5,976	98

1/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is 12 pounds or over.

2/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is under 12 pounds.

NOVEMBER EGG PRODUCTION INCREASES

Egg production in North Carolina during November is estimated at 247 million, a 6 percent increase over November 1976. The average number of layers on hand during the month increased 3 percent to 12.3 million. Rate of lay per 100 layers increased 3 percent from November last year to 2,013 eggs.

Laying flocks in the United States produced 5.5 billion eggs during November, an increase of 4 percent from November a year ago. The average number of layers on hand during the month was up 2 percent to 284 million. The number of eggs produced per 100 layers during November increased slightly to 1,944.

NUMBER OF LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- NOVEMBER

STATE	LAYERS ON HAND		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		TOTAL EGGS PRODUCED	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
North Carolina	11,937	12,275	1,956	2,013	233	247
Virginia	3,564	3,783	1,935	1,926	69	73
South Carolina	5,075	5,575	1,950	2,025	99	113
Georgia	24,007	26,250	1,995	2,016	479	529
Florida	12,881	13,151	1,920	1,998	247	263
UNITED STATES	279,312	283,707	1,905	1,944	5,320	5,514

FARM NUMBERS (Cont'd. From Page 1)

North Carolina farm numbers reached their peak in 1933 at 304,000 farms, and total farm land peaked at 20,400,000 acres in 1932.

Farms in the United States numbered 2.71 million during 1977, a decrease of 1 percent from 1976. The preliminary estimate for 1978 indicates 2.68 million farms will be in operation.

Total land in farms, estimated at 1,075 million acres for 1977, was down slightly from the 1,078 million acres estimated for 1976. The 1978 preliminary estimate of land in farms is 1,072 million acres.

Farm numbers in the United States have decreased by 12 percent during the last ten years, but only a 4 percent drop was recorded in land in farms. These changes are reflected in the average size of farm which increased from 363 acres in 1968 to 397 acres in 1977.

FARMS -- NORTH CAROLINA

Year	Number	Total Land In Farms	Average
	<i>Thousands</i>	<i>Thousand Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
1910	255	-	-
1920	273	-	-
1930	290	18,600	64
1940	300	20,000	67
1950	301	19,900	66
1960	212	17,800	84
1970	150	15,200	101
1971	143	14,800	103
1972	136	14,400	106
1973	130	14,000	108
1974	124	13,600	110
1975	121	13,400	111
1976	119	13,300	112
1977	117	13,200	113
1978	115 <u>1/</u>	13,100 <u>1/</u>	114

1/ Preliminary

NOVEMBER SLAUGHTER INCREASES

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during November 1977 totaled 57.1 million pounds live weight, an increase of 3 percent from November 1976. The number of head slaughtered increased 9 percent to 194,700.

Cattle slaughter decreased 8 percent to 17.7 million pounds live weight. Veal production increased 56 percent to 253,000 pounds live weight. Hog kill increased 9 percent to 39.1 million pounds live weight. There were no reports of sheep and lambs killed for November of this year.

The average live weight for cattle slaughtered during November was 829 pounds, down 53 pounds from a year ago.

Calf average live weight increased 31 pounds from last year to 263 pounds. Hogs were down only a slight 2 pounds at 227 pounds from November 1976.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in November 1977 totaled 3.4 billion pounds, down 1 percent from November 1976. January-November total red meat output at 35.9 billion pounds was 1 percent above last year... change by individual components: beef, down 3 percent; veal, virtually unchanged; pork, up 8; lamb and mutton, down 4. Commercial meat production includes slaughter in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER ^{1/}

SPECIES	NOVEMBER				JANUARY THROUGH NOVEMBER			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
NORTH CAROLINA								
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	21.9	21.4	19,316	17,741	205.5	180.2	184,563	156,000
Calves	.7	1.0	162	253	7.7	7.0	1,862	1,668
Sheep & Lambs	-	-	-	-	.6	.5	57	51
Hogs	156.0	172.3	35,724	39,083	1,572.0	1,726.4	354,000	383,367
TOTAL	178.6	194.7	55,202	57,077	1,785.8	1,914.1	540,482	541,086
UNITED STATES								
	<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	3.5	3.5	3,569	3,599	39.1	38.4	39,842	39,294
Calves	.5	.5	126	118	4.9	5.1	1,294	1,269
Sheep & Lambs	.5	.5	60	54	6.2	5.9	668	637
Hogs	7.5	7.2	1,809	1,744	66.9	70.8	15,920	16,772
TOTAL	12.0	11.7	5,564	5,515	117.1	120.2	57,724	57,972

^{1/} Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

HOGS AND PIGS -- DECEMBER 1, 1977 REPORT: Number On Farms, Sows Farrowing, and Pig Crop, 1977-1978

ITEM	NORTH CAROLINA		UNITED STATES	
	1977	1977 As % Of 1976	1977	1977 As % Of 1976
	<i>Thous. Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thous. Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
NUMBER ON FARMS DECEMBER 1:				
All hogs and pigs.....	2,300	119	57,587	105
Kept for breeding.....	340	121	8,765	109
Market.....	1,960	118	48,822	104
Market Hogs and Pigs By Weight Groups:				
Under 60 pounds.....	784	121	19,988	107
60-119 pounds.....	535	124	12,655	103
120-179 pounds.....	361	113	9,108	102
180-219 pounds.....	190	114	5,566	105
220 pounds and over.....	90	95	1,505	90
SOWS FARROWING:				
December <u>1</u> / - February...	110	95	2,742	112
March-May.....	108	93	3,308	100
December <u>1</u> / - May.....	218	94	6,050	105
June-August.....	123	111	3,214	108
September-November.....	106	123	3,081	107
June-November.....	229	116	6,295	108
PIG CROP:				
December <u>1</u> / - February...	748	91	18,526	105
March-May.....	794	91	24,433	99
December <u>1</u> / - May.....	1,542	91	42,959	102
June-August.....	923	111	23,180	107
September-November.....	753	123	22,082	107
June-November.....	1,676	116	45,262	107
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
PIGS PER LITTER:				
December <u>1</u> / - February...	6.80	96	6.75	94
March-May.....	7.35	98	7.38	100
December <u>1</u> / - May.....	7.07	97	7.10	97
June-August.....	7.50	100	7.21	99
September-November.....	7.10	100	7.17	101
June-November.....	7.32	100	7.19	100

FARROWING INTENTIONS	NORTH CAROLINA		UNITED STATES	
	1978 Sows	1978 As % Of 1977	1978 Sows	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thous. Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thous. Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
December <u>1</u> / - February	126	115	-	-
March-May	135	125	-	-
December <u>1</u> / - May	261	120	6,620	109

1/ December preceding year.

U.S. Department of Agriculture / N.C. Department of Agriculture

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ANNUAL CROP SUMMARY

1977 N. C. CROP HIGHLIGHTS

Flue-cured tobacco poundage 19% below last year and smallest crop since 1972.

Burley tobacco production 18% above 1976 and largest crop since 1963.

Corn production 43% below a year earlier and smallest crop since 1970.

Soybean production 18% above last year and fifth largest crop on record.

Peanut poundage 2% below 1976 and fourth largest crop on record.

Cotton production 28% below last year and second smallest crop since 1967.

Sweet Potato production 4% above a year ago and largest crop since 1942.

Irish Potato production 14% above last year and largest crop since 1961.

Sorghum grain 42% below a year earlier and smallest crop since 1969.

1977 - A YEAR OF EXTREMES

Probably few can recall a year as diverse in weather variations as this past year. Between the record lows and highs, and the severe drought, the toll on crop yields in some areas, particularly the Piedmont, was devastating. There were also pockets of dryness in the mountains and the coastal plain from which one could travel just a few miles down the road into areas where adequate rainfall had produced bountiful crops.

Last January was the coldest on record as new lows were reached on January 17 across the state. On that same day, there was snow on the ground in every state in the union except for Hawaii. The harsh cold continued into February, but by the last week in the month, the weather pattern had been completely reversed as record high temperatures for the date were reported

in several places. Precipitation over the state during these two months was generally light.

March was generally wet causing land preparation and planting to fall somewhat behind schedule. However, weather conditions in April were much improved with all planting and field activities getting into full swing. The end of April found soil moisture becoming short in the western half of the state.

By the middle of May, all areas of the state were reporting shortages of soil moisture in various degrees. The dryness was beginning to hamper the germination of recently planted seeds and some deterioration of corn, tobacco, small grains, Irish potatoes, and cotton was starting to show up. But a much needed general rainfall during the last week in May improved crop conditions greatly.

Crops remained in good shape through the first half of June, but conditions began to decline again as soil moisture became less adequate across the state, especially in the Piedmont region.

July brought record breaking temperatures with the mercury rising above the 100 degree mark several days during the month. The drought persisted throughout the month which, along with the scorching heat, left pastures parched and other crops in mostly poor to fair condition. A long awaited general rainfall during the third week in August brought some relief to thirsty crops, but it was little help for the corn crop in the Piedmont and other areas where the damage was irreparable.

Harvesting of most crops last fall ran well ahead of the previous year's pace despite periods of rain throughout

(See Weather, Page 2)

RECORD U. S. CORN CROP

Corn production in North Carolina dropped sharply in 1977 due to the drought. Corn for grain production totaled 86.2 million bushels in 1977 compared with the record crop of 150.4 million bushels in 1976. The 1977 output was 43% less than a year earlier and 19% less than the 1975 production. Acreage for harvest during 1977 at 1,690,000 was 10% below the previous year. The yield per acre averaged 51 bushels compared with 80 bushels in 1976 and 67 bushels in 1975.

Production of corn for grain in the U. S. was estimated at a record high, 6.4 billion bushels, up about 1% from last season. Yield per acre averaged 90.8 bushels compared with 87.9 bushels a year ago. Acreage harvested for grain dropped 2% from last year to 70 million acres. Illinois and Iowa are still the Nation's largest and second-largest producers of corn for grain, respectively. Together they account for 35% of the U. S. output.

RECORD U. S. SOYBEAN CROP

Soybean production in North Carolina during 1977 totaled 29 million bushels, up 18% from the 1976 output. Harvested acreage at 1,320,000 was 200,000 acres more than in 1976. Yields averaged 22 bushels per acre in 1977, the same as in 1976.

The U. S. soybean crop in 1977 was estimated at a record 1.7 billion bushels, up 33% from the prior season. Harvested acreage at 57.9 million acres was 17% above 1976. Yield per acre at 29.6 bushels was up 3.5 bushels from 1976. Illinois and Iowa, the largest and second-largest producing states in the nation, respectively, accounted for one-third of the U. S. crop.

1977 FLUE-CURED CROP SMALLER

Flue-cured poundage in North Carolina is estimated at 718.4 million pounds, 19% below the 1976 crop. Acreage harvested at 383,000 is down 13% from the 439,000 acres harvested in 1976. Yields averaged 1,876 pounds per acre compared with 2,012 pounds the previous year. Harvested acres and yield per acre for each type were below the 1976 levels.

U. S. flue-cured production is placed at 1,127 million pounds, down 14% from the 1976 production of 1,316 million pounds. The decline in production can be attributed to less acreage for harvest and lower yields per acre. The 1977 crop was harvested from 590,080 acres and yielded 1,910 pounds per acre. Output in 1976 was harvested from 666,640 acres with yield per acre averaging 1,974 pounds.

N. C. BURLEY CROP LARGER

Burley production in the Tar Heel State totaled 23.3 million pounds in 1977, up 18% from 1976. The 1977 burley output was the largest in the past fourteen years. Acreage for harvest at 9,500 was 500 acres above 1976. Yield per acre at 2,450 pounds was up 250 pounds from 1976 and up 10 pounds from 1975.

The U. S. burley crop is estimated at 643.2 million pounds, down 5% from the 679.0 million pounds produced in 1976. Yield per acre is set at 2,335 pounds, down from the 2,376 pound average a year earlier. Harvested acreage at 275,500 acres is 4% less than in 1976.

WEATHER *(Continued From Page 1)*

September and October. One reason for the early harvesting was an attempt to salvage drought-damaged crops from further loss.

Wet conditions during November hampered field work and allowed soybean harvesting to fall behind schedule. By the end of the month, harvesting of cotton and sorghum and seeding of small

grains were virtually complete. Soil moisture remained adequate to surplus throughout December, but farmers were still able to continue the soybean harvest, in some cases combining at night when the ground was frozen. A blast of cold arctic air drew 1977 to a chilling close in much the same way as the year had begun.

GRAPE PRODUCTION DOWN IN N. C.

Utilized grape production in North Carolina during 1977 totaled 3,700 tons or 9% below the 1976 tonnage. The decline in production resulted from an abnormal amount of economic abandonment and cullage compared with previous years. Of the 3,700 tons produced, 1,200 tons or 32% of the total production went to fresh market sales. The remaining 68% of the tonnage or 2,500 tons went to processing.

The 1977 utilized tonnage of grapes totaled 4.2 million tons, 4% above the 1976 level but 3% short of the tonnage of two seasons ago.

The California crop, at 3.9 million tons, rebounded from last year's rain damaged output but was still slightly less than the 1975 total. California's share of the U. S. total rose to 93% compared with about 90% in recent years. Production of wine varieties, at 1.6 million tons, was 19% above last season's figure, and table varieties were up 12% to 455,000 tons in 1977. Production of raisin varieties, at 1.9 million tons, was off 3% from a year ago and 13% below the 1975 crop. Many growers, fearing predicted rains, laid raisins early, resulting in low sugar content, high moisture, and a higher dry-away ratio.

N. C. COTTON CROP SMALLER

The number of bales of cotton produced in North Carolina during 1977 dropped 28% from the preceding year. Production at 52,000 bales is 20,000 bales less than last year. Harvested acreage in 1977 was estimated at 83,000 compared with 71,000 in 1976. Yield per acre averaged only 301 pounds, which is down sharply from the 489 pound yield of last year.

The Nation's cotton production is expected to total 14.5 million bales, up 37% from 1976. Harvested acreage in 1977 was 21% above last year and yield per acre at 525 pounds is 60 pounds heavier than the preceding year. Texas, which accounted for 38% of the 1977 U. S. cotton production, continues to be the largest cotton producing state.

N. C. SORGHUM FOR GRAIN DOWN SHARPLY

Acreage for grain harvest dropped sharply during 1977 in North Carolina because of the drought. The dry weather caused growers to abandon or cut for forage acreage originally intended for grain. Harvested acreage at 72,000 was 18,000 less than the 90,000 acres harvested for grain in 1976. The average yield for sorghum grain also declined due to the drought in the major producing Piedmont region and was estimated at 37 bushels per acre compared with 51 bushels during 1976. Total production of 2.7 million bushels was 42% below the 1976 production.

U. S. production of sorghum for grain in 1977 totaled 791 million bushels, up 10% from last year. An increase in the average yield from 48.9 bushels per acre in 1976 to 56.2 bushels per acre in 1977 brought about the rise in production. On the other hand, harvested acreage during 1977 at 14.1 million acres was down 4% from the previous year. In 1977, Kansas was the leading producer of sorghum grain followed by Texas and Nebraska. These three states accounted for 79% of the nation's production.

MORE N. C. IRISH POTATOES

Irish potato production in North Carolina totaled 2.7 million cwt., 14% above the 1976 output. Acreage for harvest increased 400 acres from 1976 to 17,400 acres. Yield per acre at 156 cwt. was 16 cwt. above the average yield in 1976. The spring potato crop, which accounted for 77% of the total harvested acreage, had an average yield of 165 cwt., up 20 cwt. from last year. The summer crop, consisting of 4,000 harvested acres, had an average yield of 125 cwt., unchanged from the previous season.

Production from the 1977 potato crop in the U. S., totaled 352 million cwt., down almost 2% from last year but up 9% from two seasons ago. Yields averaged 1 cwt. per acre more than 1976 at 261 cwt.. Acreage harvested declined 2% from a year earlier to 1,349,000 acres. The five leading producers in the country in order are Idaho, Washington, Maine, Oregon and California. They account for 60% of the national output.

POTATOES									
Cwt.	5,000	5,100	50	50	157	133	24.00	25.50	3,288
Fall.....	300	300	40	40	12	12	25.00	21.70	260
Cwt.	6,800	6,700	33	31	222	210	22.18	23.43	4,920
All.....									
Cwt.	2,100	2,200	120	110	252	242	3.17	3.89	799
Cabbage: Spring.....	3,700	2,600	200	185	740	481	4.24	4.37	3,141
Summer.....	2,200	2,200	115	125	253	275	6.18	6.68	1,837
Fall.....	8,000	7,000	156	143	1,245	998	4.42	4.89	4,880
Cwt.	5,400	4,900	65	60	351	294	7.13	7.15	2,503
Corn, Sweet.....	6,900	6,800	63	63	436	430	7.83	7.83	3,368
Cucumbers.....	7,900	7,000	36	37	284	259	13.60	12.10	3,862
Green Peppers.....	2,100	2,100	21	20	44	42	46.00	44.00	2,024
Strawberries.....	2,000	2,000	145	140	290	280	13.50	17.00	3,915
Tomatoes.....	8,000	7,000	56	55	448	385	3.25	3.34	1,456
Watermelons.....	46,950	43,440	-	-	3,296	2,889	-	-	27,886
Cwt.									26,282
PROCESSING VEGETABLES $\frac{\$}{}$									
All Vegetables.....	29,180	29,560	-	-	82.50	75.30	-	-	11,436
Cucumbers.....	27,700	28,000	2.82	2.60	78.10	72.90	139.00	132.00	10,856
Snap Beans.....	1,300	1,400	2.27	1.32	2.95	1.85	177.00	154.00	522
Total All Crops $\frac{\$}{}$	4,757	4,684	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,816,526
									1,506,097

UNITED STATES

Thousand Acres									
Corn, for Grain.....	71,300	70,006	87.9	90.8	6,266,359	6,357,424	2.15	2.02	13,471,796
All Wheat, for Grain.....	70,771	66,216	30.3	30.6	2,142,362	2,025,793	2.73	2.31	5,851,443
Oats, for Grain.....	11,946	13,447	45.7	55.6	546,315	747,914	1.56	1.11	845,188
Barley, for Grain.....	8,297	9,490	44.9	43.8	372,461	415,803	2.25	1.72	829,716
Rye, for Grain.....	721	694	20.7	24.5	14,951	16,998	2.47	2.01	37,199
Cotton, Lint $\frac{\$}{}$	10,914	13,259	465	525	10,581	14,496	.641	.520	3,254,954
Cottonseed.....	-	-	-	-	4,149	5,531	103.00	71.00	428,177
Hay, All.....	60,311	60,493	1.99	2.17	120,006	131,057	60.40	54.10	6,810,799
Sorghum, for Grain.....	14,723	14,065	48.9	56.2	719,817	790,647	2.03	1.76	1,450,085
Lespedeza, for Seed.....	57.4	48.2	190	198	10,912	9,564	.440	.698	4,792
Soybeans, for Beans.....	49,358	57,911	26.1	29.6	1,287,560	1,716,334	6.81	5.46	8,768,979
Peanuts, for Nuts.....	1,522	1,514	2,465	2,432	3,750,890	3,681,312	.200	.209	750,260
Tobacco: Flue-Cured.....	666.6	590.1	1,974	1,910	1,316,257	1,127,287	1.104	$\frac{\$}{}$	1,452,670
Burley.....	285.8	275.5	2,376	2,335	678,976	643,193	1.142	$\frac{\$}{}$	774,998
All.....	1044.5	965.6	2,045	2,003	2,135,829	1,934,187	1.125	1.186	2,403,723
Apples, Commercial.....	-	-	-	-	6,414,900	6,702,100	.0880	.0930	566,102
Peaches, Total.....	-	-	-	-	2,642,400	2,860,200	.0960	.0990	254,236
Grapes.....	-	-	-	-	4,092	4,248	155.00	183.00	632,823
Pecans, All.....	-	-	-	-	103,100	249,500	.815	.575	83,983
Irish Potatoes, All.....	1374.5	1349.0	260	261	357,674	352,010	3.59	3.64	1,282,856
Sweet Potatoes.....	117.8	112.9	114	111	13,432	12,516	7.48	9.55	100,059
Fresh Market Vegetables $\frac{\$}{}$	1,604	1,583	-	-	252,288	252,719	-	-	2,445,466
Processing Vegetables $\frac{\$}{}$	1,625	1,635	-	-	11,050	12,588	-	-	786,649
									939,505

$\frac{\$}{}$ Received by farmers. $\frac{\$}{}$ Values are for the crop year and should not be confused with calendar year income. $\frac{\$}{}$ Green-weight. $\frac{\$}{}$ Includes corn hogged, grazed and that cut and fed without removing ears. $\frac{\$}{}$ Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. $\frac{\$}{}$ Includes small quantities for processing. $\frac{\$}{}$ Acres, production and value of principal vegetables and melons for fresh market including strawberries. $\frac{\$}{}$ Prices for processing vegetables are plant-door prices. $\frac{\$}{}$ Acres in thousands and includes field crops, lespezo seed and commercial vegetables for fresh market and processing...Value of production includes the same crops plus fruits and nuts. $\frac{\$}{}$ Not available.

N. C. FRESH MARKET VEGETABLES DOWN IN 1977

The 1977 CABBAGE crop in North Carolina was harvested from an estimated 7,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from the previous year. Yield per acre at 143 cwt. was 13 cwt. below last year's average. Production is set at 998,000 cwt., down 20% from 1976. Higher prices partly offset the smaller crop but the total value of sales at \$4,880,000 was 11% below last year.

The Nation's harvested acreage in 1977 totaled 91,830. This was 7% below the acreage harvested in 1976. The average yield per acre was 257 cwt., which is 18 cwt. higher than the previous year. U. S. production is placed at 23,563,000 cwt., which is virtually unchanged from the 1976 production level. Value of the crop totaled \$176 million or 51% more than a year earlier due to higher prices.

Growers in North Carolina harvested 6,800 acres of CUCUMBERS for fresh market during 1977 compared with 6,900 acres during 1976. Yield per acre at 63 cwt. was unchanged from 1976. Production totaled 430,000 cwt. in North Carolina, down 1% from the previous year. Because of lower prices, value of sales dropped 10% from 1976 to \$3,368,000.

The U. S. CUCUMBER crop for fresh market was harvested from an estimated 51,310 acres, up 5% from a year earlier. Yield per acre at 107 cwt. was 3 cwt. above the previous year. Production at 5.5 million cwt. and total value of crop at \$57 million are up 8% and 17%, respectively, from 1976.

North Carolinians harvested 7,000 acres of GREEN PEPPERS during 1977 compared with 7,900 acres during 1976. Yield per acre at 37 cwt. was up 1 cwt. from last year. Production totaled 259,000 cwt., down 9% from a year earlier. Value of sales at \$3.1 million was 19% below 1976.

The U. S. crop was harvested from 55,600 acres, up 3% from 1976. Yield per acre dropped 1 cwt. to 97 cwt. and production for 1977 is placed at 5,393,000 cwt., almost 3% more than produced during 1976. The total value of the 1977 crop was \$90 million, up 2% from a year earlier.

The 1977 SNAP BEAN crop in North Carolina was harvested from 6,700 acres, down 100 acres from 1976. Also, average yield per acre dropped from

33 cwt. in 1976 to 31 cwt. in 1977. Total snap bean production is estimated at 210,000 cwt., down from the previous year's production of 222,000 cwt.. The 1977 value of sales at \$4,920,000 is unchanged from a year earlier.

The Nation's 1977 harvested SNAP BEAN acreage at 77,550 was 9% below a year earlier. Yield per acre at 37 cwt. was unchanged and production totaled 2,868,000 cwt. compared with 3,126,000 cwt. during 1976. The crop's total value of \$59.5 million was 4% below 1976.

The 1977 SWEET CORN crop in North Carolina was harvested from 4,900 acres, down 500 acres from 1976. Yield per acre at 60 cwt. was 5 cwt. below the previous year. Production is placed at 294,000 cwt. and the crop valued at \$2,102,000 for 1977, each down 16% from 1976.

The Nation's SWEET CORN production totaled 13,221,000 cwt. in 1977, 8% less than the prior year. The value of sales at \$106 million was 10% below the 1976 value.

North Carolina's 1977 STRAWBERRY crop was harvested from 2,100 acres, which was the same as in 1976. Yield per acre averaged 20 cwt., down 1 cwt. from 1976. Production totaled 42,000 cwt. and was valued at \$1,848,000 compared with \$2,024,000 in 1976.

The U. S. crop was harvested from 34,300 acres at 190 cwt. per acre. Production totaled 6,509,000 cwt., up 14% from 1976.

The 1977 Tar Heel TOMATO crop was harvested from 2,000 acres, the same as in 1976. Yield per acre averaged 140 cwt. per acre, 5 cwt. less than the previous year. Total production at 280,000 cwt. was down 3% from 1976.

U. S. production at 19,656,000 cwt. was down 10%. Harvested acreage at 124,820 acres was down 2% from 1976. Yields averaged 157 cwt. per acre compared with 170 cwt. the preceding year.

North Carolina's 1977 harvested WATERMELON acreage at 7,000 acres was down 1,000 acres from 1976. Yields averaged 55 cwt. per acre for a total production of 385,000 cwt., down 14% from the previous year. The crop was valued at \$1,286,000, 12% lower than 1976.

The U. S. crop was harvested from
(See Vegetables, Page 7)

MORE APPLES

The apple crop in North Carolina totaled 270 million pounds in 1977 compared with 265 million pounds the previous year. Freeze damage during 1977 was limited to isolated areas while freeze damage was more widespread during 1976.

Red Delicious continued as the leading variety in North Carolina accounting for 141 million pounds or about 52% of the total production. Golden Delicious, the next largest producing variety, produced 54 million pounds or 20% of the total. Rome Beauty followed Golden Delicious with 44 million pounds and Stayman accounted for 15 million pounds. These 4 varieties combined produced 94% of the State's apple poundage.

The nation's 1977 commercial apple crop totaled 6.7 billion pounds utilized, a 5% increase from last year but 6% below the 1975 figure. In the East, 2.7 billion pounds were utilized, 15% above a year earlier, and the Central States production rose 12% to

975.6 million pounds. Both regions suffered from spring freeze damage to the 1976 crop. The Western States produced nearly 3.0 billion pounds, off 6% from 1976 and 2% less than in 1975. Washington's crop, the largest in the nation, slipped 7% from a year ago to 2.1 billion pounds.

York Imperials made the largest gain from 1976 with 40% more produced. Other varieties showing large increases were: Northern Spy and R I Greening, each up 26%; McIntosh, 25%; Stayman 19%; Jonathan 16%; and Cortland, up 15%. Red Delicious apples registered a 4% decline while Gravensteins, Rome Beauties, Winesaps, and Yellow Newtowns reflected 1 to 2% reductions.

Red Delicious remained the Nation's leading variety, at 34% of the total U. S. crop. Other leading varieties as a percent of total were: Golden Delicious, 18%; McIntosh, 10%; Rome Beauty, 7%; Jonathan, 5%; and York Imperial, 4% of total production.

PEANUT CROP SMALLER

Peanut production in North Carolina for 1977 was estimated at 431.6 million pounds, 2% less than last year. The northern coastal plain district, where about 90% of the crop is grown, did not suffer from the summer drought as much as the remainder of the State. Worm infestations were more troublesome than usual, but spraying programs were effective. Yield per acre at 2,600 pounds was down 55 pounds from the 1976 average yield. Harvested acreage at 166,000 was unchanged from a year earlier.

Peanut production in the U. S. for 1977 was 3.7 billion pounds. This was 2% below last year's poundage and 5% below two years ago. Harvested acreage dropped 7,500 acres from the previous year to 1,514,000. Yield per acre also declined slightly. In 1977, yields averaged 2,432 pounds per acre compared with 2,465 during 1976. Georgia continued as the number one peanut producer by accounting for 40% of the U. S. crop.

N. C. LEADING PRODUCER OF YAMS

North Carolina continued in 1977 as the leading producer of sweet potatoes in the United States. Harvested acreage for 1977 at 33,000 was unchanged from the prior year. Yield per acre, however, increased 5 cwt. from the 1976 season to 135 cwt.. Total production was 4,455,000 cwt. for 1977, which was 4% higher than the 1976 output.

Sweet potato production for the country was placed at 12.5 million cwt., down 7% from last year. Harvested acreage at 112,900 was down 4% from last season. Yields averaged 111 cwt. per acre compared with 114 cwt. per acre a year earlier.

VEGETABLES *(Continued From Page 6)*

227,400 acres, down 3% from a year earlier. Yield per acre averaged 116 cwt. for a production of 26,371,000 cwt., 2% more than the 1976 total production.

PEACH PRODUCTION HIGHER IN 1977

Utilized production in 1977 for the Tar Heel State was estimated at 35 million pounds. This was 40% higher than the freeze-reduced crop of 1976 and 17% above the 1975 production.

The 1977 U. S. peach crop totaled nearly 3.0 billion pounds, of which 2.9 billion pounds were utilized. This was 8% higher than the utilized output of the previous two seasons. The California clingstone crop accounted for 1.4 billion pounds (49%) of the U. S. utilized production. This was 17% above the 1976 crop, which was hard hit by a mid-season cannery workers' strike, and 9% more than the 1975 level. Excluding California clingstones, utilized peach production totaled 1.5 billion pounds, up 1% from last season and 7% above the 1975 crop.

JACK NEALON

Mathematical Statistician

N. C. PECAN POUNDAGE DOWN

Pecan production in North Carolina totaled an estimated 2.0 million pounds for 1977. This is 29% below the production level of 1976. Insects and dry summer weather caused the significant drop in pecan poundage. Improved varieties accounted for 75% of the total production and the remaining 25% were native and seedling varieties.

The 1977 U. S. pecan crop is estimated at 249.5 million pounds compared with 103.1 million pounds last year and 246.8 million pounds in 1975. Improved varieties accounted for 59% of the 1977 production and native and seedling varieties 41% of the production. Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma accounted for 83% of the 1977 poundage.

DAN C. TUCKER

Statistician In Charge

U.S. Department of Agriculture / N.C. Department of Agriculture

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N. C. CATTLE NUMBERS RISE

All cattle and calves on North Carolina farms on January 1, 1978 are estimated at 1,100,000 head, an increase of 2 percent from the first of last year, according to a survey completed recently by the North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. The number of beef cows that have calved rose 4 percent while milk cows that have calved remained unchanged at 147,000. Heifers weighing

(See Cattle Numbers, Page 4.)

CHICKEN INVENTORY RISES

All chickens (excluding commercial broilers) on Tar Heel farms as of December 1, 1977 are estimated at 21.4 million, an increase of 14 percent from a year earlier. Of this total, 14.0 million are hens and pullets of laying age; 3.5 million are pullets 3 months old and older but not of laying age; 3.1 million are pullets under 3 months old and 800,000 are other chickens. The average value per head of these chickens is estimated at \$1.65 for a total value of \$35.3 million.

In the United States there were 386.5 million chickens on farms on December 1, 1977, an increase of 2 percent from a year earlier. Of these, 286.6 million were hens and pullets of laying age. The average value of chickens was \$1.69 per head and the total value for all chickens was \$652.3 million.

NORTH CAROLINA

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by Tar Heel farmers at local markets during January was 180, a rise of 7 points from December and 4 points from January 1977.

The "All Crops" index was up 7 points from December. Oil bearing crops dropped 4 points to 200. Grains rose 3 points. Commercial vegetables were unchanged at 195 while fruits dropped 9 points.

The "Livestock and Livestock Products" index was up 5 points from the December index. Meat animals were up 10 points and poultry rose 4 points. Dairy declined 2 points. (See Table on Page 2.)

TURKEY INTENTIONS INCREASE

North Carolina turkey growers intend to produce 16.8 million turkeys during 1978, an increase of 2 percent from 1977. The State ranks third behind Minnesota and California in production intentions for 1978.

Turkey growers in the 20 major States intend to raise 132.2 million turkeys during 1978, up 1 percent from 1977.

On December 1, 1977 there were an estimated 350,000 turkey breeder hens on Tar Heel farms, 9 percent more than a year earlier. (See Table on Page 8.)

U. S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 4 POINTS PRICES PAID INDEX UP 5 POINTS

The January Index of Prices Received by Farmers increased 4 points (2 percent) from December to 185 percent of its January-December 1967 average. Contributing most to the increase since December were higher prices for cattle, hogs, broilers, lettuce and tomatoes. Lower prices for eggs, milk, grapefruit and soybeans were partially offsetting. The index was 2 points (1 percent) above a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates for January 15 was 208, up 5 points (2 percent) from mid-December. Higher prices for feeder livestock plus the annual updating of the indexes for interest, taxes, and farm services and cash rent accounted for nearly all the index rise. The index was 10 points (5 percent) above a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	Jan. 15 1975	Jan. 15 1976	Jan. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1977	Jan. 15 1978
NORTH CAROLINA					
Prices Received: All Farm Products...	<u>3/</u> 175	171	<u>3/</u> 176	<u>3/</u> 173	180
All Crops.....	<u>3/</u> 176	162	174	174	181
Tobacco.....	<u>3/</u> 160	152	164	166	178
Oil Bearing.....	217	171	<u>3/</u> 223	<u>3/</u> 204	200
Grains.....	239	189	<u>3/</u> 185	<u>3/</u> 161	164
Commercial Vegetables.....	<u>3/</u> 172	181	159	195	195
Fruits.....	185	192	198	180	171
Livestock and Livestock Products....	<u>3/</u> 172	<u>3/</u> 189	178	175	180
Meat Animals.....	<u>3/</u> 168	210	174	190	200
Poultry.....	177	184	182	168	172
Dairy.....	<u>3/</u> 164	<u>3/</u> 170	170	<u>3/</u> 175	173
UNITED STATES					
Prices Received, All Farm Products....	<u>3/</u> 172	186	<u>3/</u> 183	181	185
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services <u>1/</u>	<u>3/</u> 180	<u>3/</u> 193	<u>3/</u> 198	203	208
Parity Ratio <u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 95	<u>3/</u> 96	92	89	89

1/ Including interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. 3/ Revised.

CROP LIVESTOCK AND FEED PRICES MOSTLY UP

The average prices North Carolina farmers received for crops at local markets about mid-January were mostly higher. (See Table, Page 3.) Both corn and oats rose 3 cents per bushel to \$2.25 and \$1.42 respectively. Soybeans, at \$5.76, were up 7 cents a bushel.

Prices received for livestock were also generally higher. Hogs increased \$1.40 to \$42.90 per hundredweight. Beef cattle, at \$29.30, were up \$2.80 per hundredweight and veal calves, at \$39.60, rose \$4.50 per hundredweight. Milk cows dropped \$5.00 per head to \$340.00.

Feed prices paid by North Carolina farmers during January were mixed. (See Table, Page 3.) Pre-mixed dairy feed containing 16 percent protein was down \$1.00 per ton from December to \$142.00. Chick starter rose \$1.00 to \$171.00 per ton, and broiler grower increased \$3.00 to \$168.00 per ton. Turkey grower was unchanged at \$188.00 per ton. Bran rose 10 cents to \$7.60 per hundredweight while cornmeal dropped 10 cents to \$5.80 per hundredweight. Soybean meal (44 percent protein) increased 50 cents per hundredweight to \$12.00.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		Jan. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1977	Jan. 15 1978*	Jan. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1977	Jan. 15 1978*
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	1.085	1.085	1.115	1.136	1.179	1.213
Corn.....	Bu.	2.53	2/ 2.22	2.25	2.34	2/ 1.96	1.96
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.43	2/ 2.47	2.54
Oats.....	Bu.	1.71	1.39	1.42	1.58	2/ 1.12	1.12
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.19	2/ 1.79	1.79
Sorghum Grains..	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.59	2/ 3.05	3.07
Soybeans.....	Bu.	6.87	2/ 5.69	5.76	6.81	2/ 5.69	5.63
Peanuts.....	Lb.	-	.223	.207	.202	.204	.215
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.627	2/ .479	.478
Cottonseed.....	Ton	-	-	-	100.00	67.00	67.00
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.751	.721	.729
Hogs.....	Cwt.	37.00	41.50	42.90	38.00	41.50	43.90
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt.	26.60	26.50	29.30	32.30	35.70	37.20
Veal Calves.....	Cwt.	32.50	35.10	39.60	33.70	37.80	40.80
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	335.00	345.00	340.00	481.00	522.00	528.00
Com'l. Broilers..	Lb.	.215	.200	.220	.215	.202	.228
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.350	.450	.380	.324	.403	.380
Eggs <u>L/</u>	Doz.	.752	.619	.620	.651	.536	.494
Milk, Whole.....	Cwt.	10.90	11.20	11.10	9.65	2/ 10.30	10.20
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.44	3.01	3.21
Sweet Potatoes..	Cwt.	5.40	9.90	10.20	7.78	11.30	11.90
Apples, Com'l...	Lb.	.116	.095	.093	.111	.126	.126
Hay, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	60.90	49.50	50.50
Alfalfa Hay....	Ton	-	-	-	65.40	51.50	52.60
Other.....	Ton	-	-	-	52.90	45.20	46.40

L/ Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers. *2/* Revised. * Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	Jan. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1977	Jan. 15 1978	Jan. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1977	Jan. 15 1978
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed	-	-	-	141.00	127.00	125.00
14% Protein.....	146.00	143.00	142.00	147.00	135.00	136.00
16% Protein.....	-	-	145.00	-	-	147.00
18% Protein.....	-	-	149.00	-	-	150.00
20% Protein.....	193.00	198.00	200.00	211.00	194.00	197.00
32% Protein.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poultry Feeds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chick Starter.....	173.00	170.00	171.00	176.00	166.00	169.00
Broiler Grower....	174.00	165.00	168.00	174.00	160.00	162.00
Laying Feed <u>L/</u>	158.00	146.00	151.00	156.00	145.00	147.00
Turkey Grower <u>L/</u> ...	179.00	188.00	188.00	182.00	177.00	177.00
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bran.....	7.80	7.50	7.60	7.86	7.20	7.33
Middlings.....	7.40	7.10	7.20	7.74	7.08	7.31
Corn Meal.....	6.40	5.90	5.80	6.14	5.47	5.51
High Protein Feeds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonseed Meal 41%	12.50	12.50	12.50	11.50	10.40	10.40
Soybean Meal 44%...	13.00	11.50	12.00	12.60	11.30	11.30

L/ Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

CATTLE NUMBERS (Cont'd. From Page 1)

500 pounds and over for beef cow replacement were up 1 percent while those for milk cow replacement were down 3 percent. Steers, heifers, and bulls under 500 pounds numbered 285,000, an increase of 1 percent from January 1, 1977. The calf crop during 1977 is set at 500,000 compared with 490,000 calves born during 1976.

The average value of all cattle and calves increased to \$185 per head, up \$10 per head from January 1, 1977. The total value of all North Carolina cattle and calves rose to 203.5 million -- up from 189.0 million January 1 a year ago.

All cattle and calves in the United States on January 1, 1978 totaled 116.3 million head, down 5 percent from a year earlier and 9 percent below January 1, 1976. This represents the third consecutive year of herd reduction in the

current cattle cycle.

All cows and heifers that have calved at 49.7 million head are down 5 percent from January 1, 1977. The number on July 1, 1977 at 52.2 million was down 3 percent from a year earlier.

Beef cows at 38.7 million are down 6 percent from January 1, 1977 and 12 percent below January 1, 1976.

Milk cows at 10.9 million are down 1 percent from January 1, 1977 and 1976.

The 1977 calf crop is estimated at 46.1 million, down 3 percent from 1976 and 8 percent below 1975. This year a larger percent of the calf crop was born during the January-June period than during recent years. Death losses of cattle and calves were about one-fifth above last year due to the unusually cold weather in early and late 1977.

CATTLE NUMBERS BY CLASS JANUARY 1, 1977-1978

CLASS	N. C.		S. C.		GEORGIA		VIRGINIA		U. S.	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
<i>Thousand Head</i>										
All Cattle and Calves	1,080	1,100	750	690	2,300	1,975	1,620	1,620	122,810	116,265
Beef Cows that have Calved	398	414	334	306	961	839	546	579	41,389	38,747
Milk Cows that have Calved	147	147	56	56	129	129	174	171	11,035	10,930
Heifers 500 lbs. and over										
Beef Cow Replacement	82	83	59	53	164	128	104	110	6,529	5,834
Milk Cow Replacement	39	38	14	14	39	44	52	84	3,888	3,896
Other	36	36	15	13	85	85	57	49	8,057	7,971
Steers 500 lbs. and over	63	63	45	40	186	140	210	170	16,885	16,775
Bulls 500 lbs. and over	34	34	24	22	62	55	33	36	2,665	2,540
Steers, Heifers, and Bulls Under 500 lbs.	281	285	203	186	674	555	444	421	32,363	29,574
<i>Dollars</i>										
Value Per Head	175	185	160	175	160	180	195	200	206	232
<i>Million Dollars</i>										
Total Value	189.0	203.5	120.0	120.8	368.0	355.5	315.9	324.0	25,252	27,029
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
<i>Thousand Head</i>										
Calf Crop	490	500	329	306	910	850	635	660	47,440	46,057

DECEMBER LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER DOWN

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during December 1977 totaled 49.2 million pounds live weight, a decrease of 9 percent from December 1976. The number of head slaughtered decreased 6 percent to 172,100. Cattle slaughtered decreased 12 percent to 15 million pounds live weight. Veal production decreased 5 percent to 152,000 pounds live weight. Hog kill decreased 8 percent to 34.0 million pounds live weight. There were no reports for sheep and lambs killed for December this year.

The average live weight for cattle slaughtered during December was 864 pounds, down 13 pounds from a year ago.

Calf average live weight was up 10 pounds to 238. Hogs, at 221 pounds, were down 6 pounds from December 1976.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in December 1977 totaled 3.2 billion pounds, down 4 percent from December 1976. The January-December 1977 total red meat output at nearly 39.2 billion pounds was slightly above last year... change by individual components: beef, down 3 percent; veal, down 2; pork, up 7; lamb and mutton, down 6. Commercial meat production included slaughter in federally inspected and other plants, but excluded animals slaughtered on farms.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER *1/*

SPECIES	DECEMBER				JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	NORTH CAROLINA							
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	19.6	17.5	17,189	15,084	225.1	197.6	201,752	171,084
Calves	.7	.6	160	152	8.4	7.7	2,022	1,820
Sheep & Lambs	-	-	-	-	.6	.6	57	55
Hogs	163.0	154.0	37,001	33,989	1,735.0	1,880.4	391,001	417,357
TOTAL	183.3	172.1	54,350	49,225	1,969.1	2,086.3	594,832	590,316
	UNITED STATES							
	<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	3.5	3.5	3,599	3,552	92.7	41.8	43,442	42,846
Calves	.5	.4	133	107	5.3	5.5	1,428	1,376
Sheep & Lambs	.6	.5	61	50	6.7	6.4	730	686
Hogs	6.9	6.5	1,646	1,559	73.8	77.3	17,566	18,331
TOTAL	11.5	10.9	5,439	5,268	128.5	131.0	63,166	63,239

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.



STATE'S HONEY PRODUCTION UP 330

Apiaries in North Carolina produced an estimated 5,125,000 pounds of honey in 1977, an increase of 22 percent from the 4,200,000 pounds produced in 1976. In mid-December, producers reported 1977 production from 205,000 colonies, a decrease of 2 percent from a year earlier. Although there was much variation in production throughout the state, the average yield over all colonies was 25 pounds, up 5 pounds from 1976.

North Carolina honey producers received an average price of 79.3 cents per pound for honey sold, giving the 1977 crop a value of 4.1 million dollars.

There were 974,000 pounds of honey stocks on hand as of December 15 compared with 924,000 pounds carried over in 1976.

Beeswax production in 1977 rose to 97,000 pounds from 59,000 pounds in 1976. Producers received an average of \$1.39 per pound for beeswax. The total production was valued at \$135,000.

Honey production in the United States during 1977 totaled 176.3 million pounds, a decrease of 11 percent from the 1976 crop. The number of colonies increased slightly to 4.3 million. Yield per colony was 40.9 pounds, down 12 percent from 1976.

ANNUAL HONEY CROP -- 1976 Revised, 1977 Preliminary

STATE	Colonies Of Bees		Yield Per Colony		Honey Production		Stocks On Hand For Sale Dec. 15	Average Price Per Pound		Value Of Production	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Thousand Pounds</i>		<i>Thousand Pounds</i>	<i>Cents</i>		<i>Thousand Dollars</i>	
N. C.	210	205	20	25	4,200	5,125	974	.713	.793	2,995	4,064
Md.	13	13	29	22	377	286	49	.695	.772	262	221
Va.	78	80	22	20	1,716	1,600	336	.586	.657	1,006	1,051
W. Va.	94	89	19	20	1,786	1,780	409	.787	.939	1,406	1,671
S. C.	56	60	19	18	1,064	1,080	184	.767	.805	816	869
Ga.	139	150	22	25	3,058	3,750	375	.491	.513	1,501	1,924
Fla.	360	360	76	40	27,360	14,400	1,440	.424	.442	11,601	6,365
Minn.	155	150	92	80	14,260	12,000	1,440	.476	.470	6,788	5,640
Texas	200	210	47	43	9,400	9,030	903	.458	.450	4,305	4,064
Calif.	525	525	26	26	13,650	13,650	1,775	.407	.425	5,556	5,801
U. S.	4,278	4,315	46.4	40.9	198,699	176,309	29,914	.499	.530	99,188	93,394

BEESWAX

STATE	Production		Price Per Pound		Value	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	<i>Thousand Pounds</i>		<i>Cents</i>		<i>Thousand Dollars</i>	
N. C.	59	97	1.00	1.39	59	135
Del.	1	2	1.20	1.68	1	3
Md.	8	8	1.20	1.68	10	13
Va.	24	22	1.18	1.50	28	33
W. Va.	25	25	1.10	1.70	28	43
S. C.	22	22	1.16	1.53	26	34
Ga.	43	49	1.04	1.50	45	74
Fla.	465	216	1.11	1.61	516	348
Minn.	228	228	1.15	1.55	262	353
Calif.	314	205	1.19	1.65	374	338
U. S.	3,361	3,067	1.12	1.57	3,777	4,830

DECEMBER EGG PRODUCTION UP

Egg production in North Carolina during December is estimated at 295 million, a 19 percent increase over December 1976. The average number of layers on hand during the month increased to 14.2 million. Rate of lay per 100 layers increased 3 percent from December last year to 2,074 eggs.

In the United States, laying flocks produced 5.8 billion eggs during December, a 5 percent increase from December 1976. The average number of layers on hand during December rose 3 percent to 287 million. The rate of lay per 100 layers was 2,022 eggs compared to 1,970 eggs in December 1976.

NUMBER OF LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- DECEMBER

STATE	Layers On Hand		Eggs Per 100 Layers		Total Eggs Produced	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
North Carolina	12,262	14,200	2,018	2,074	247	295
Virginia	3,633	3,869	1,969	2,000	72	77
South Carolina	5,044	5,500	2,015	2,040	102	112
Georgia	23,932	26,120	2,037	2,058	487	538
Florida	13,003	12,931	1,981	2,089	258	270
UNITED STATES	279,743	287,111	1,970	2,022	5,512	5,805

N. C. BROILER-TYPE HATCH INCREASES

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 31.0 million broiler-type chicks during December 1977. This is a 3 percent increase from December a year earlier. Egg-type hatch, at 675,000, dropped 4 percent from a year earlier.

For the nation, the hatch of broiler-type chicks at 305.8 million was 8

percent greater than December 1976. The egg-type hatch during December totaled 32.1 million, a decrease of 12 percent from December a year earlier. The number of eggs in incubators on January 1, 1978 for the South Atlantic States increased 8 percent for broiler-type and decreased 15 percent for egg-type.

CHICKS HATCHED -- DECEMBER

STATE	Broiler-Type		1977 As % Of 1976	Egg-Type		1977 As % Of 1976
	1976	1977		1976	1977	
	Thousands					
North Carolina	29,962	30,990	103	700	675	96
South Carolina	2,744	3,152	115	732	651	89
Georgia	40,878	45,515	111	3,534	1,737	49
Florida	7,756	8,041	104	2,947	2,464	84
Delaware	13,380	15,282	115	/	/	-
Maryland	17,386	18,121	104	/	/	-
Virginia	8,559	9,589	112	533	440	83
UNITED STATES	282,980	305,822	108	36,647	32,129	88

/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

TURKEYS: Number Raised In 1977 and To Be Raised In 1978

STATE	Heavy Breeds		Light Breeds		All Breeds		
	1977	1978 <u>1/</u>	1977	1978 <u>1/</u>	1977	1978 <u>1/</u>	1978 As % Of 1977
	Thousand Head				Percent		
North Carolina <u>2/</u>	-	-	-	-	16,500	16,800	102
Arkansas <u>2/</u>	-	-	-	-	10,258	11,100	108
California	16,540	16,507	704	493	17,244	17,000	99
Georgia	1,633	1,653	0	0	1,633	1,653	101
Minnesota	16,896	17,344	5,843	5,548	22,739	22,892	101
South Carolina	2,410	2,500	0	10	2,410	2,510	104
Texas	8,600	8,300	0	0	8,600	8,300	97
Virginia <u>2/</u>	-	-	-	-	8,694	9,000	104
Wisconsin	5,536	5,692	8	8	5,544	5,700	103
20 STATE TOTAL	119,064	120,830	11,247	11,400	130,311	132,230	101

1/ Intended. 2/ Breakdown by breeds combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY VALUE UP

The total value of the recent inventory of all cattle, hogs, sheep, chickens and turkey breeder hens on Tar Heel farms amounted to \$376 million, an increase of 20% from last year. The value of cattle and calves on January 1, 1978 at \$204 million was 8% higher than a year earlier. The value of hogs and pigs as of December 1 was \$132 million or 44% above last year. As of December 1, chickens (excluding commercial broilers) were valued 21% above the previous year and turkey breeder hens 40% above a year earlier. The January 1 value of sheep and lambs was 6% higher than the January, 1977 value.

The value of cattle and calves in the United States on January 1 was \$27 billion, up 7% from a year earlier. Hogs and pigs as of December 1 were valued at \$3.6 billion, up 41% from last year. Chickens (excluding commercial broilers) and turkey breeder hens were valued 1% and 3% higher, respectively, than December 1, 1976. The January 1 value of sheep and lambs was 18% above a year earlier.

N. C. GRAIN STOCKS DOWN SHARPLY

Grain stocks in all North Carolina storage positions on January 1, 1978 were down 24% from the same date last year. All grain crops declined except soybeans. Corn in storage totaled 50 million bushels, down 34% from a year earlier. Wheat stocks declined 25%; oats 37% and barley 22%. Sorghum grain stocks dropped 31% from the prior year. On the other hand, soybeans stored in all positions totaled 20.7 million bushels, up 25% from a year ago.

January 1, 1978 wheat stocks in the United States at 54 million metric tons were up 12% from last year. Stocks
(See Stocks, Page 3)

N. C. MILK PRODUCTION DOWN DURING JANUARY

Milk production in North Carolina totaled 135 million pounds during January 1978, down 6% from the same month a year earlier. Milk cows on Tar Heel farms dropped 6% to 145,000 head. The average milk per cow at 930 pounds was unchanged from January 1977.

January 1978 milk production in the U. S. was 9,988 million pounds, up 1% from January a year ago. Average production per cow at 914 pounds was 16 pounds more than a year earlier. The number of milk cows totaled 10,931,000 head during this January, down 1% from January 1977.

The January U. S. milk-feed price ratio was 1.69, down from 1.71 in December, 1977. The decline in the ratio was due to lower milk prices and higher feed costs.

MILK PRODUCTION INCREASES IN 1977 FOR N. C. AND U. S.

Milk production in North Carolina during 1977 totaled 1.66 billion pounds, up 4% from 1976. Milk cows on farms during 1977 averaged 151,000 head and the annual average milk produced per cow for 1977 was 11,000 pounds.

Milk production during 1977 in the U. S. totaled 123.0 billion pounds, 2% above the 1976 estimate of 120.3 billion pounds. The 1977 production was 3% below the record high 1964 volume of 127.0 billion pounds but the largest since 1965. Output per cow in 1977 was a record high 11,194 pounds, up 315 pounds from 1976. The annual average number of cows at 10,984,000 was 1% below the 1976 average and continues the long downward trend.

1977 EGG PRODUCTION UP IN N. C.

Egg production in North Carolina from December 1, 1976 to November 30, 1977 totaled 2,968 million eggs, an 8% increase from the same period a year earlier. The average number of layers last year was 12,374,000, up 7% from the previous year. The 1977 average production per layer was 240 eggs, an

increase of 1% over a year earlier.

U. S. egg production in the year ending November 30, 1977 is estimated at 64.5 billion eggs. This is unchanged from the previous year. The average number of layers during 1977 was 275 million and the average annual production per layer was 235 eggs.

AVERAGE NUMBER LAYERS ON FARMS, EGGS PER 100 LAYERS AND EGGS PRODUCED, BY MONTHS, 1976 and 1977, NORTH CAROLINA

MONTH	NUMBER LAYERS		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		EGGS PRODUCED	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Million Eggs</i>	
December <u>1/</u>	11,950	12,262	1,993	2,018	238	247
January	11,800	12,225	1,969	1,956	232	239
February	11,850	11,950	1,856	1,775	220	212
March	11,800	11,750	2,031	2,046	240	240
April	11,600	11,500	1,974	2,028	229	233
May	11,300	11,550	2,040	2,086	231	241
June	11,050	11,950	1,968	1,977	217	236
July	11,200	12,250	2,021	1,984	226	243
August	11,375	12,500	2,031	1,990	231	249
September	11,525	13,100	1,956	2,013	225	264
October	11,700	13,600	2,003	2,096	234	285
November	11,937	13,850	1,956	2,013	233	279
TOTAL	<u>2/</u> 11,591	<u>2/</u> 12,374	<u>3/</u> 238	<u>3/</u> 240	2,756	2,968

1/ December preceding year. 2/ Monthly average. 3/ Eggs produced during year divided by average number layers during year.

ANNUAL MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION

STATE	MILK COWS ON FARMS <u>1/</u>			MILK PER COW <u>2/</u>			MILK PRODUCTION <u>2/</u>			
	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1977 As Percent Of 1976
	<i>Thousands</i>			<i>Pounds</i>			<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>
N. C.	146	147	151	10,205	10,816	11,000	1,490	1,590	1,661	104
Md.	143	141	138	10,559	10,986	11,449	1,510	1,549	1,580	102
Va.	173	174	173	10,150	10,828	11,098	1,756	1,884	1,920	102
W. Va.	41	38	38	8,537	9,368	8,763	350	356	333	94
S. C.	57	56	56	8,982	9,304	9,482	512	521	531	102
Ga.	129	129	129	9,295	9,915	9,946	1,199	1,279	1,283	100
Fla.	197	201	198	9,929	10,065	9,914	1,956	2,023	1,963	97
U. S.	11,143	11,055	10,984	10,350	10,879	11,194	115,334	120,269	122,957	102

1/ Average number on farms during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION--JANUARY

STATE	MILK COWS ON FARMS 1/			MILK PER COW 2/			MILK PRODUCTION 2/			
	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978	1978 As Percent Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>			<i>Pounds</i>			<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>	
N. C.	146	154	145	890	930	930	130	143	135	94
Md.	142	140	136	885	935	960	126	131	131	100
Va.	171	174	173	860	895	940	147	156	163	104
Ga.	129	129	129	845	890	875	109	115	113	98
Fla.	198	200	197	885	880	900	175	176	177	101
U. S.	11,087	11,036	10,931	866	898	914	9,600	9,914	9,988	101

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

STOCKS (Cont'd. From Page 1)

of the four feed grains totaled 169 million metric tons, 14% more than last January's 149 million metric tons. Soybean stocks at 36 million metric tons were up 27% from a year ago.

Corn in all storage positions on January 1, totaled a record high 5.4 billion bushels, up 11% from a year earlier. Sorghum grain in all storage positions amounted to 625 million

bushels, 27% above a year earlier. Oats in storage amounted to 563 million bushels, 36% above the January 1 record low last year. Barley stored in all positions totaled 326 million bushels, 20% above a year earlier and the highest January 1 stocks since 1973. All wheat stocks totaled 2.0 billion bushels, 12% more than last years 1.8 billion bushels. Soybeans in all positions totaled a record high 1.3 billion bushels up 27% from January 1, 1977.

STOCKS OF GRAINS -- JANUARY 1

CROP	OFF-FARM TOTAL <u>1/</u>		ON-FARM TOTAL		TOTAL ALL POSITIONS <u>2/</u>	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	Thousand Bushels					
<u>NORTH CAROLINA</u>						
Corn for grain	24,400	20,332	52,640	30,167	77,040	50,499
Wheat	2,370	1,934	1,183	720	3,553	2,654
Oats	750	358	1,015	756	1,765	1,114
Barley	158	131	772	594	930	725
Rye	23	*	38	72	61	*
Sorghum Grain	540	329	1,882	1,332	2,422	1,661
Soybeans	8,670	9,995	7,885	10,745	16,555	20,740
<u>UNITED STATES</u>						
Corn for grain	1,544,023	1,652,767	3,345,496	3,788,770	4,889,519	5,441,537
Wheat	1,116,376	1,161,440	665,407	829,360	1,781,783	1,990,800
Oats	73,477	82,329	339,008	480,440	412,485	562,769
Barley	117,511	108,595	153,726	217,772	271,237	326,367
Rye	4,151	2,902	4,739	6,127	8,890	9,029
Sorghum Grain	331,631	404,185	160,875	220,358	492,506	624,543
Soybeans	559,045	651,138	473,120	657,391	1,032,165	1,308,529

1/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

2/ Off-farm total plus farm stocks.

* Not published to avoid disclosing individual reports.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

DATE AND SPECIE	NUMBER ON FARMS			TOTAL VALUE		
	Thousand Head			Thousand Dollars		
	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978
NORTH CAROLINA						
JANUARY 1, 1978:						
Cattle and Calves.....	1,170	1,080	1,100	187,200	189,000	203,500
Sheep and Lambs.....	10	9	9	290	306	324
DECEMBER 1, 1977:						
Hogs and Pigs.....	1,900	1,940	2,300	138,700	92,150	132,250
Chickens <u>1/</u>	18,000	18,800	21,400	27,900	29,140	35,310
Turkey Breeder Hens...	304	320	350	3,952	3,392	4,760
UNITED STATES						
JANUARY 1, 1978:						
Cattle and Calves.....	127,980	122,810	116,265	24,335,124	25,251,635	27,028,660
Sheep and Lambs.....	13,311	12,766	12,387	496,291	541,345	638,509
DECEMBER 1, 1977:						
Hogs and Pigs.....	49,602	54,934	57,587	3,985,302	2,582,568	3,635,352
Chickens <u>1/</u>	379,754	378,238	386,531	659,960	643,511	652,268
Turkey Breeder Hens <u>2/</u>	3,098	3,064	3,045	33,427	33,184	34,307

1/ Does not include commercial broilers.

2/ U. S. totals are for 27 major states only.

Jack Nealon
Mathematical Statistician

Dan C. Tucker
Statistician In Charge

U.S. Department of Agriculture / N.C. Department of Agriculture

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NORTH CAROLINA FARM LABOR FORCE DOWN

Workers on North Carolina farms during the survey week of January 8-14, 1978 were estimated at 69,000, a decrease of 25% from the same quarter in 1977. The number of farm operators and unpaid family members dropped 23% to 53,000 when compared to the same period a year ago. All hired workers decreased 30% when compared to the same period in 1977.

The survey, conducted quarterly, indicates that farm operators worked an average of 17.9 hours on farms during the January survey week. Other unpaid family workers worked 32.9 hours while hired workers spent 26.5 hours at

(See Farm Labor, Page 7)

WORLD AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION UP

World agricultural production (excluding China) may have increased a little more than 1 percent in 1977, despite a 2-percent drop in global grain output. The People's Republic of China appears to have about matched the world performance.

Economic growth in developed countries in 1978 is expected to be about the same as in 1977, adding little stimulus to foreign import demand, and, with 1977/78 world food supplies generally above year-earlier levels, U. S. export prices are likely to average lower. Consequently, U. S. agricultural exports may drop around \$2 billion from fiscal 1977's \$24-billion record,

(See World Production, Page 5)

NORTH CAROLINA PRICES RECEIVED INDEX RISES

The 'All Farm Products' index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets during February was 184, an increase of 3 points from January and 2 points from February 1977.

The 'All Crops' index was unchanged at 181. Oil bearing crops were down 3 points to 197. Grains were up 2 points. Commercial vegetables rose 1 point to 196 and fruits increased 7 points to 178.

The 'Livestock and Livestock Products' index was up 7 points from January. Meat animals shot up 18 points to 218 while poultry rose 5 points. Dairy declined 3 points. (See Table on Page 2.)

RED MEAT CONSUMPTION DOWN

Consumers will have very large supplies of red meat and poultry to choose from during the first half of 1978. Commercial beef production should just about equal that of the first 6 months of 1977, although with a little larger population, per capita consumption may decline slightly. A possible 6-percent increase in commercial pork production will mean a continued increase in per capita pork consumption during the winter and spring. Per capita poultry consumption is expected to increase about 5 to 7 percent.

(See Red Meat, Page 6)

U. S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 6 POINTS PRICES PAID INDEX UP 2 POINTS

The February Index of Prices Received by Farmers increased 6 points (3 percent) from January to 192 percent of its January-December 1967 average. Contributing most to the increase since January were higher prices for cattle, hogs, eggs, oranges, broilers and calves. Lower prices for soybeans, tomatoes and strawberries were partially offsetting. The index was 6 points (3 percent) above

a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates for February 15 was 211, up 2 points (1 percent) from mid-January. Higher prices for feeder livestock accounted for most of the increase. The index was 11 points (6 percent) above a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	Feb. 15 1975	Feb. 15 1976	Feb. 15 1977	Jan. 15 1978	Feb. 15 1978
NORTH CAROLINA					
Prices Received: All Farm Products....	<u>3/</u> 173	173	<u>3/</u> 182	<u>3/</u> 181	184
All Crops.....	<u>3/</u> 173	163	<u>3/</u> 180	181	181
Tobacco.....	<u>3/</u> 161	152	169	178	178
Oil Bearing.....	201	173	<u>3/</u> 231	200	197
Grains.....	220	193	<u>3/</u> 187	<u>3/</u> 170	172
Commercial Vegetables.....	<u>3/</u> 173	181	166	195	196
Fruits.....	187	197	210	171	178
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	<u>3/</u> 173	191	<u>3/</u> 185	<u>3/</u> 181	188
Meat Animals.....	170	213	179	200	218
Poultry.....	177	187	192	172	177
Dairy.....	<u>3/</u> 164	169	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u> 176	173
UNITED STATES					
Prices Received, All Farm Products.....	<u>3/</u> 168	187	186	<u>3/</u> 186	192
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services <u>1/</u> .	<u>3/</u> 180	193	200	<u>3/</u> 209	211
Parity Ratio <u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 93	<u>3/</u> 97	<u>3/</u> 93	89	91

1/ Including interest, taxes and farm wage rates. 2/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid. 3/ Revised.

CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND FEED PRICES MIXED

The average prices North Carolina farmers received for crops at local markets about mid-February were mixed. (See Table, Page 3.) Corn increased 3 cents per bushel to \$2.36. Oats was down 1 cent to \$1.66 per bushel. Soybeans, at \$5.63, dropped 12 cents a bushel.

Prices received for livestock were mostly higher. Hogs increased \$3.60 to \$46.50 per hundredweight. Beef cattle, at \$32.90, were up \$3.60 per hundredweight and veal calves, at \$42.40, rose \$2.80 per hundredweight. Milk cows dropped \$5.00 per head to \$335.00.

Feed prices paid by North Carolina farmers during February were also mixed. (See Table, Page 3.) Pre-mixed dairy feed containing 20 percent protein was down \$5.00 per ton from January to \$144.00. Chick starter rose \$3.00 to \$174.00 per ton while broiler grower was off \$1.00 to \$167.00 per ton. Turkey grower increased to \$191.00 per ton. Bran was unchanged at \$7.60 per hundredweight and corn meal increased 20 cents to \$6.00 per hundredweight. Soybean meal (44 percent protein) dropped 50 cents per hundredweight to 11.50.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		Feb. 15 1977	Jan. 15 1978	Feb. 15 1978*	Feb. 15 1977	Jan. 15 1978	Feb. 15 1978 *
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	-	-	-	1.183	1.213	1.233
Corn.....	Bu.	2.56	2.33 <u>2/</u>	2.36	2.34	2.00 <u>2/</u>	2.00
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.47	2.53	2.58
Oats.....	Bu.	1.73	1.67 <u>2/</u>	1.66	1.63	1.17 <u>2/</u>	1.15
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.19	1.88	1.81
Sorghum Grains..	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.51	3.15	3.11
Soybeans.....	Bu.	7.27	5.75 <u>2/</u>	5.63	7.06	5.75 <u>2/</u>	5.42
Peanuts.....	Lb.	-	.207	-	-	.215	-
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.648	.480	.488
Cottonseed.....	Ton	-	-	-	99.00	67.00	68.00
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.730	.729	.727
Hogs.....	Cwt.	38.60	42.90	46.50	39.30	43.90	47.90
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt.	26.10	29.30	32.90	33.10	37.20	39.90
Veal Calves.....	Cwt.	33.50	39.60	42.40	35.60	40.80	44.50
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	325.00	340.00	335.00	485.00	528.00	538.00
Com'l. Broilers..	Lb.	.235	.220	.235	.240	.228	.243
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.350	.380	.360	.325	.380	.371
Eggs <u>1/</u>	Doz.	.771	.620	.617	.662	.494	.551
Milk, Whlse.....	Cwt.	11.00	11.30	11.10	9.54	10.20	10.20
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.51	3.21	3.19
Sweet Potatoes..	Cwt.	6.50	10.20	10.40	8.62	11.90	12.40
Apples, Com'l...	Lb.	.128	.093	.100	.107	.126	.136
Hay, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	62.70	50.50	51.80
Alfalfa Hay....	Ton	-	-	-	66.70	52.60	53.70
Other.....	Ton	-	-	-	54.80	46.40	48.00

1/ Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers. 2/ Revised. * Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	Feb. 15 1977	Feb. 15 1978	Feb. 15 1978	Feb. 15 1977	Feb. 15 1978	Feb. 15 1978
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed						
14% Protein.....	-	-	-	144.00	125.00	125.00
16% Protein.....	151.00	142.00	140.00	151.00	136.00	134.00
18% Protein.....	-	145.00	138.00	-	147.00	146.00
20% Protein.....	-	149.00	144.00	-	150.00	147.00
32% Protein.....	205.00	200.00	194.00	216.00	197.00	192.00
Poultry Feeds						
Chick Starter.....	181.00	171.00	174.00	181.00	169.00	166.00
Broiler Grower.....	184.00	168.00	167.00	178.00	162.00	164.00
Laying Feed <u>1/</u>	161.00	151.00	153.00	160.00	147.00	146.00
Turkey Grower <u>1/</u> ...	183.00	188.00	191.00	186.00	177.00	177.00
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products						
Bran.....	8.80	7.60	7.60	7.93	7.33	7.39
Middlings.....	7.40	7.20	7.10	7.80	7.31	7.31
Corn Meal.....	6.50	5.80	6.00	6.13	5.51	5.59
High Protein Feeds						
Cottonseed Meal 41%	12.50	12.50	11.50	11.60	10.40	10.50
Soybean Meal 44%...	13.50	12.00	11.50	13.00	11.30	10.90

1/ Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

HATCHERY PRODUCTION INCREASES

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 32.2 million broiler-type chicks during January 1978. This is 3 percent greater than during January a year earlier. Egg-type hatch at 900,000, increased 6 percent from a year earlier.

In the United States, the January hatch of broiler-type chicks at 313.0

million was 7 percent more than January 1977. Egg-type chicks hatched totaled 36.8 million, down 9 percent from a year ago. The number of eggs in incubators on February 1, 1978 for the South Atlantic States increased 8 percent for broiler-type and decreased 10 percent for egg-type.

CHICKS HATCHED -- JANUARY

STATE	Broiler-Type			Egg-Type		
	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>
North Carolina	31,366	32,165	103	850	900	106
South Carolina	2,910	3,082	106	785	665	85
Georgia	42,609	46,026	108	4,370	3,765	86
Florida	8,028	8,295	103	3,571	3,000	84
Delaware	13,926	14,705	106	//	//	-
Maryland	17,771	18,229	103	//	//	-
Virginia	8,779	9,336	106	719	382	53
UNITED STATES	293,305	312,965	107	40,249	36,751	91

// Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

U. S. TURKEY HATCH UP 10 PERCENT

The hatch of 11.8 million turkey poults during January was 10 percent above a year ago. The hatch of heavy breeds was up 18 percent from January 1977, but light breed poults hatched were down 59 percent.

The 19.5 million turkey eggs in incubators on February 1 were up 8 percent from a year earlier. Eggs set for heavy breed turkeys were up 13 percent from last year but light breeds were down 45 percent.

POULTS HATCHED -- JANUARY

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	Heavy Breeds 1/		Light Breeds 2/		All Breeds		
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>				<i>Percent</i>		
North Atlantic	155	83	0	0	155	83	54
East North Central	952	1,353	20	0	972	1,353	139
West North Central	2,667	2,955	690	247	3,357	3,202	95
South Atlantic	2,050	2,825	305	238	2,355	3,063	130
South Central	1,539	1,524	0	0	1,539	1,524	99
West	2,205	2,567	188	14	2,393	2,581	108
UNITED STATES	9,568	11,307	1,203	499	10,771	11,806	110

1/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is 12 pounds or over.

2/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is under 12 pounds.

JANUARY EGG PRODUCTION UP

The production of eggs in North Carolina during January is estimated at 285 million, a 19 percent increase from January 1977. The average number of layers on hand during the month rose to 14.1 million. Rate of lay per 100 layers increased 3 percent from January last year to 2,021 eggs.

For the nation, laying flocks produced 5.7 billion eggs during January, a 5 percent increase from January 1977. The average number of layers on hand during January increased 2 percent to 285 million. The rate of lay per 100 layers was 2,007 eggs compared to 1,956 eggs in January 1977.

NUMBER OF LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- JANUARY

STATE	Layers On Hand		Eggs Per 100 Layers		Total Eggs Produced	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
North Carolina	12,225	14,100	1,956	2,021	239	285
Virginia	3,580	3,795	1,953	2,027	70	77
South Carolina	4,969	5,500	2,015	1,969	100	108
Georgia	23,331	25,320	1,972	2,018	460	511
Florida	12,971	12,667	1,947	2,062	253	261
UNITED STATES	278,320	285,170	1,956	2,007	5,444	5,724

WORLD PRODUCTION (Cont'd. From Page 1)

although export volume is expected to increase.

The world grain outlook continues much as reported early in the season—except for a substantial increase in the estimate of rice output—with overall production down and consumption up in 1977/78. Coarse grain stocks are still expected to build, although not as much as forecast earlier, but wheat stocks should fall somewhat.

World production of oilmeal is forecast to recover sharply in calendar 1978 because of good oilseed crops in most major producing regions. The resulting lower prices, especially when compared with those for feed grains, are expected to bring increased use of oilmeals in feed rations, particularly in the United States, the European Community (EC), and Japan.

The overall levels of meat production, consumption, and trade in the world's two largest meat consuming reg-

ions—the United States and the EC—were little changed in 1977 from 1976 and are likely to continue relatively steady into 1978.

World milk production increased an estimated 2 percent in 1977, with the largest gains in the USSR, the EC, and the United States. World butter and nonfat dry milk stocks remain in surplus, and more growth in stocks is expected, while cheese supplies and consumption should be in relative balance.

Coffee production is bouncing back from 1976/77's low level largely because of a substantial recovery in Brazilian output, but a return to more customary levels of output is not expected until at least 1979. Prices have weakened substantially in recent months but remain well above those of a few years ago. World cocoa production is also likely to greatly improve over 1976/77's short crop, and prices have moderated considerably.

RED MEAT *(Cont'd. From Page 1)*

Even though red meat and poultry supplies will be larger than a year ago retail meat prices are also expected to increase. The average retail price of Choice grade beef could increase 6 to 8 percent above 1977 levels during the first half of 1978 as a result of the very slight reduction in beef supplies, higher live animal prices, an increase in marketing costs, and a strong consumer demand. This would be about a 2-percent increase from the fourth quarter of 1977 to the first quarter of 1978. Although pork supplies will be larger, the retail price of pork may average 3 to 5 percent higher during

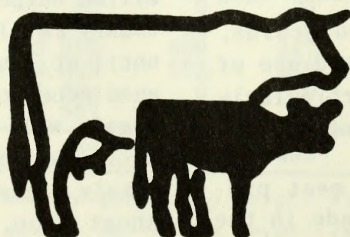
the first 6 months of 1978 as a result of wider marketing margins.

Red meat and poultry consumption during 1977 totaled almost 247 pounds per person (carcass weight), just below 1976's record level. Red meat consumption was down because of a 3½ pound decrease in per capita beef consumption which offset the 2-pound increase in pork consumption. Veal and lamb consumption remained almost the same. Per capita poultry consumption increased again in 1977, reaching a new record of 53½ pounds. This pattern of a little less beef with more pork and poultry is expected to continue during 1978.

U. S. PER CAPITA MEAT CONSUMPTION BY QUARTERS *1/*

Year	Carcass Weight					Retail Weight				
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Total	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Total
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
Beef										
1975.....	30.3	28.4	30.2	31.2	120.1	22.4	21.0	22.4	23.1	88.9
1976.....	32.8	31.3	33.5	31.7	129.3	24.3	23.1	24.8	23.4	95.6
1977.....	31.5	31.1	32.0	31.3	125.9	23.3	23.0	23.7	23.2	93.2
Veal										
1975.....	.9	.9	1.2	1.2	4.2	.8	.8	1.0	1.0	3.6
1976.....	1.1	.8	1.0	1.1	4.0	.9	.7	.8	.9	3.3
1977.....	1.0	.9	1.0	1.0	3.9	.9	.7	.8	.8	3.2
Pork										
1975.....	15.5	14.4	12.5	13.7	56.1	14.0	13.2	11.5	12.5	51.2
1976.....	14.3	13.6	14.5	17.3	59.7	13.1	12.4	13.3	15.8	54.6
1977.....	15.8	14.9	14.7	16.4	61.8	14.6	13.8	13.4	15.1	56.9
Lamb & Mutton										
1975.....	.5	.5	.5	.5	2.0	.5	.4	.4	.5	1.8
1976.....	.5	.4	.5	.5	1.9	.5	.4	.4	.4	1.7
1977.....	.5	.4	.4	.4	1.7	.4	.4	.4	.3	1.5
Red Meat										
1975.....	47.2	44.2	44.4	46.6	182.4	37.7	35.4	35.3	37.1	145.5
1976.....	48.7	46.1	49.5	50.6	194.9	38.8	36.6	39.3	40.5	155.2
1977.....	48.8	47.3	48.1	49.1	193.3	39.2	37.9	38.3	39.4	154.8

1/ Total consumption including farm, 50 States.



JANUARY SLAUGHTER RISES

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during January 1978 totaled 51.0 million pounds live weight, a slight increase from January 1977. The number of head slaughtered increased 5 percent to 183,500.

Cattle slaughter decreased 13 percent to 13.9 million pounds live weight. Calf slaughter rose 18 percent to 156,000 pounds live weight. Hog kill was up 6 percent to 37.0 million pounds live weight. No sheep or lamb slaughter was reported for January 1978.

The average live weight for cattle slaughtered during January was 875 pounds, down 11 pounds from a year ago. Calf average live weight was up 48

pounds to 257. Hogs, at 222 pounds, were down 1 pound from January 1977.

Red meat production in North Carolina during January 1978 was 1 percent higher than in January 1977 totaling 33.5 million pounds.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in January 1978 totaled 3.2 billion pounds, down 1 percent from January 1977. The January total red meat output by individual components: beef, down 2 percent; veal, down 9; pork, up 3; lamb and mutton, down 14. Commercial meat production included slaughter in federally inspected and other plants, but excluded animals slaughtered on farms.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER -- JANUARY

SPECIES	NORTH CAROLINA				UNITED STATES			
	Number Slaughtered <i>/</i>		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered <i>/</i>		Total Live Weight	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	17.9	15.8	15,852	13,856	3.5	3.5	3,665	3,584
Calves	0.6	0.6	132	156	0.5	0.4	120	105
Sheep & Lambs					0.5	0.4	58	49
Hogs	156.4	167.1	34,802	37,023	6.1	6.2	1,434	1,472
TOTAL	174.9	183.5	50,786	51,035	10.6	10.5	5,277	5,210

/ Excludes slaughter on farms.

FARM LABOR (Cont'd. From Page 1)

work. Hired workers received an average wage of \$3.03 an hour compared to \$2.85 a year earlier.

For the total year 1977, North Carolina's farm labor force averaged 164,000, of which 92,000 were family workers and 72,000 were hired workers. Wages averaged \$2.47 per hour during 1977 compared to \$2.25 in 1976.

The total labor force on the Nation's farms during the survey week of

January 8-14, 1978 was estimated at 3.0 million workers, down 7 percent from last year. Farm operators plus unpaid family members working 15 hours or more numbered 2.2 million while hired labor accounted for 764,300 workers. Field and livestock workers tallied 544,000, about 71 percent of the hired work force. U. S. farm wages averaged \$2.87 in 1977 and \$2.66 in 1976.

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RALEIGH
NORTH CAROLINA
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A COLD FEBRUARY

Cold weather during February hampered farm activities in North Carolina. In addition, wet or snow-covered soils hindered field work. The primary farm activities for the month consisted of tobacco plant bed preparation, small grain topdressing and general winter chores. Preparation of land for spring planting is underway and apple tree pruning is active in the Mountain Region.

The condition of small grains and pastures declined. Small grains are generally in fair condition. The cold weather has damaged some of the small grains, particularly in the northern Mountain District. Pastures are mostly in poor condition in the western part of the state and generally in fair condition in the eastern half of North Carolina.

Hay, roughage and feed grain supplies are short to adequate, statewide. In the Piedmont Region, supplies are short.

THE TOP TEN

California has again earned more money from farm product sales than any other State. Collecting more than 9% of all 1976 marketing receipts, the Golden State ranked first in cash for crops and third in livestock sales. Total sales of \$9.1 billion carried California past Iowa and Texas in a market that rang up \$94.3 billion.

Iowa's No. 2 position meant \$7 billion in sales, while third-place Texas notched \$6.3 billion and led the Nation in cash receipts from cattle and calf marketings.

The remainder of the top ten boasted some familiar members:

Fourth-place Illinois, at \$6.1 billion, led the way in corn and soybean earnings.

No. 5 Minnesota ranked high in dairy products, hogs, and barley and sold the most turkeys to boost receipts from all farm goods to \$3.9 billion.

Nebraska fell just behind Minnesota, retaining the sixth slot mainly on strong sales of cattle and calves, corn, and sorghum.

Kansas captured the No. 7 spot with \$3.5 billion in cash receipts, mostly from wheat, sorghum, and cattle and calves.

Newcomer Wisconsin knocked Ohio off the list with a \$3-billion market built around dairy product sales totaling \$1.8 billion.

Closing out the top ten was North Carolina, at \$2.8 billion, backed strongly by first-place finishes in tobacco and forest products.

Honors for realized net income per farm went to Arizona once again, as producers averaged more than \$67,000. California scored second at about \$42,000 per farm, followed by Florida, \$28,000, and Delaware, \$24,000.

For the United States as a whole, realized net farm income averaged \$7,885 per farm, up from 1975's \$7,410 but well below the \$9,801 earned in 1974 and the record \$10,529 of 1973.

As California produces the most, so it also spends the most. Farm production expenses ran more than \$6.8 billion there, while Iowa farmers had expenses of \$6.5 billion, and Texas producers, about \$6 billion.

SPRING POTATO ACREAGE DOWN

North Carolina farmers intend to harvest 13,000 acres of spring potatoes in 1978. This acreage is 400 acres less than the 13,400 acres harvested in 1977.

Acreage for harvest in the U. S. is estimated at 87,700 acres for 1978. This is 4% below the 91,400 acres harvested in 1977 and 11% less than the harvested acreage in 1976.

FLORICULTURE SALES UP IN NORTH CAROLINA

The 1977 gross wholesale value of sales by commercial growers in North Carolina for the 16 floriculture crops surveyed was \$11,922,000. This is 8% above the 1976 value of sales. Cut flowers rose slightly in value to \$3,970,000 compared with \$3,958,000 a year earlier. The 1977 value of flowering pot plants totaled \$5,810,000, a 15% increase from 1976. The value of sales for bedding plants in 1977 was \$2,142,000, up 7% from a year earlier.

The value of standard carnations at \$650,000 declined 3% from 1976. Standard and pompon chrysanthemums were valued at \$2,100,000 and \$718,000, respectively, for the 1977 crop year. Standard chrysanthemums were valued 1% above the previous year and pompon chrysanthemums 13% above the 1976 value. North Carolina ranked fourth largest in the U. S. for value of standard chrysanthemums. The value of gladiola declined 20% in 1977 to \$238,000. Snap dragons, which were valued at \$264,000, dropped 6% in value.

The 1977 gross wholesale value of sales for potted chrysanthemums rose 18% to \$2,541,000. Potted geraniums valued \$912,000 in 1977, which was 7% higher than the previous year's value. The value of potted lilies at \$443,000 showed a 47% increase from a year earlier. The value of potted poinsettias totaled \$1,629,000 compared with \$1,382,000 in 1976. Potted hydrangeas, the only flowering pot plant to decline in value, was valued at \$285,000, down

25% from the previous year.

The values of flowering and vegetable bedding plants increased during 1977. Flowering bedding plants, which were valued at \$1,383,000 in 1977, increased 9% in value from a year ago. The 1977 value of vegetable bedding plants totaled \$759,000. This was 3% above the 1976 value.

The 1977 equivalent wholesale value of all sales in the U. S. for the 16 crops surveyed totaled \$754 million, a 9% increase from the \$691 million a year earlier. Bedding plants showed the largest percentage gain, up 23%, followed by foliage plants which increased 12% in value. These two groups accounted for 15 and 36 percent, respectively, of the total value of crops included in this survey.

Cut flowers rose slightly in value in the U. S. to \$211 million compared with \$209 million in 1976. Gains of 7% in miniature carnations, 4% in pompon chrysanthemums and 6% in roses more than offset declines of 7% in standard carnations, 2% in standard chrysanthemums, 4% in gladiola and 4% in snap dragons.

The 1977 U. S. value of flowering pot plants was up 8% to \$156 million, with potted geraniums the only crop to show a decline from 1976. Potted geraniums decreased 4% in value while potted chrysanthemums and potted hydrangeas each increased 1%; potted lilies increased 17% and potted poinsettias increased 26%.

FLORICULTURE CROPS: Gross Wholesale Value Of Sales 1/

FLORICULTURE CROP	NORTH CAROLINA		UNITED STATES	
	1976	1977	1976	1977
	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>			
Standard Carnations.....	669	650	45,573	42,328
Standard Chrysanthemums.....	2,076	2,100	29,326	28,626
Pompon Chrysanthemums.....	633	718	34,157	35,552
Gladioli.....	299	238	17,158	16,535
Snap Dragons.....	281	264	2,782	2,672
Potted Chrysanthemums.....	2,156	2,541	54,776	55,305
Potted Geraniums.....	849	912	32,096	30,816
Potted Hydrangeas.....	379	285	5,561	5,604
Potted Lilies.....	301	443	14,246	16,718
Potted Poinsettias.....	1,382	1,629	37,595	47,339
Flowering Bedding Plants <u>2/</u> .	1,269	1,383	63,878	81,560
Vegetable Bedding Plants <u>2/</u> .	735	759	30,216	31,533

1/ Equivalent wholesale value of all sales for all crops except foliage plants. For foliage plants, value based on net value of sales. 2/ Excludes value sales from "open acreage" grown outdoors.

PEANUT STOCKS DOWN

Peanut stocks in commercial storage totaled 2,393 million pounds of equivalent farmers' stock on January 31, 1978, 7% below a year earlier. Included in the total were 1,662 million pounds of actual farmers' stock, 6% below the 1,765 million a year ago. Shelled peanuts on hand at month's end totaled 701 million pounds of equivalent farmers' stock, off 7% from a year ago. Roasting stock totaled 30 million pounds. There were 295 million pounds of Commodity Credit Corporation uncommitted stocks on hand as of January 31, 1978.

Shelled peanut stocks on January 31 totaled 527 million pounds of which 495 million were edible grades and 32 million pounds were oil stocks. Edible grade stocks by types were Virginias, 123 million pounds; Runners, 300 million pounds; and Spanish, 72 million pounds.

Commercial processors utilized 97 million pounds of shelled edible grade peanuts during January in manufacturing primary products. This was 3% above January 1977. Peanut butter use was practically the same; peanut candy up 6%; and salted peanut use was up 9% from a year ago.

Crushings for oil, cake and meal totaled 24 million pounds during January 1978, a little less than half of the 50 million crushed a year ago.

January deliveries under the Government's Domestic Feeding and Child Nutrition Programs totaled 4,357,538 pounds of peanut butter, 544,000 pounds of peanut granules, and 2,039,760 pounds of roasted peanuts, and 11,179,444 pounds of other peanut products, primarily oil and shortening.

FEBRUARY MILK PRODUCTION DOWN IN N. C.

North Carolina's milk production is estimated at 132 million pounds during February 1978, a decline of 3% from the same month last year. The number of milk cows, including dry cows, totaled 145,000 head. This is down 5% from the previous February total of 152,000 head. Production per cow averaged 910 pounds, up 15 pounds from February 1977.

U. S. milk production during February 1978 totaled 9,341 million pounds.

This is slightly above the February 1977 production, but 6% below the previous month. Milk cows, estimated at 10,915,000 head during February, were down 1% from last year and 16,000 head below January 1978. Milk per cow is estimated for February 1978 at 856 pounds, up 1% from last February. The February 1978 milk per cow is 2% above the February estimate two years ago.

MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION -- FEBRUARY

STATE	MILK COWS ON FARMS ^{1/}			MILK PER COW ^{2/}			MILK PRODUCTION ^{2/}			
	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978	1978 As Percent Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>			<i>Pounds</i>			<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>	
N. C.	147	152	145	860	895	910	126	136	132	97
Va.	172	174	174	810	815	835	139	142	145	102
Md.	142	140	136	835	880	870	119	123	118	96
Ga.	128	129	129	805	815	800	103	105	103	98
Fla.	199	201	197	825	790	850	164	159	167	105
U. S.	11,076	11,025	10,915	839	847	856	9,290	9,337	9,341	100

^{1/} Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

^{2/} Excludes milk sucked by calves.

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Mathematical Statistician

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U.S. Department of Agriculture / N.C. Department of Agriculture

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N. C. FARM CASH RECEIPTS LOWER

Cash receipts from marketings of farm products in North Carolina during calendar year 1977 were estimated at \$2,637 million, a decrease of 7 percent from the receipts during 1976.

Income from all crops during 1977 was 13 percent below a year earlier. Livestock and livestock products reached \$1,110 million, a rise of 3 percent from 1976.

Tobacco, of course, leads all individual commodities in income for the year. Its estimated value was \$866 million. This represents 57 percent of the income from all crops sold and 33 percent of the income from all commodities.

Other leading income producing crops in North Carolina were corn, at \$155 million; soybeans, at \$138 million, vegetables, at \$90 million; and peanuts at \$87 million.

Of all livestock and livestock products, broilers had the highest cash receipts in 1977 at \$321 million. Hogs rank next with estimated receipts of \$256 million, a decline of 2 percent from 1976. Income from milk at \$173 million was up 6 percent. The value of chicken eggs rose slightly to \$156 million.

For the nation, cash receipts from farm marketings in 1977 were estimated at \$95 billion, 1 percent above a year earlier. Crop receipts, at \$47.6 billion, were down slightly, while livestock receipts, at \$47.5 billion, increased 2 percent.

(See Table, Page 5)

N. C. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX RISES

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets during March was 187, an increase of 3 points from February and up 4 points from March 1977.

The "All Crops" index rose 3 points from February. Fruits showed the greatest increase at 27 points. Oil bearing crops were next with an increase of 12 points. Grains were up 5 points and commercial vegetables 4 points.

The "Livestock and Livestock Products" index was up 3 points from February. Meat animals rose 8 points to 226. Poultry increased 3 points and dairy dropped 3 points.

(See Table, Page 2)

N. C. HOG NUMBERS RISE

All hogs and pigs on tar heel farms March 1, 1978 totaled 2,000,000 head, an increase of 11 percent from a year earlier and 4 percent above March 1, 1976, according to the North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. This year's March 1 inventory consisted of 310,000 head kept for breeding purposes and 1,690,000 head of market hogs. North Carolina ranks seventh in the Nation in the total number of hogs and pigs as of March 1.

North Carolina producers intend to farrow 120,000 sows during the next 3 months (March through May 1978) 11

(See Hog Numbers, Page 6)

U. S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 7 POINTS PRICES PAID INDEX UP 3 POINTS

The March Index of Prices Received by U. S. Farmers increased 7 points (4 percent) from 193 to 200 percent of its January-December 1967 average. Contributing most to the increase since February were higher prices for cattle, soybeans, corn, calves and oranges. The index was 10 points (5 percent) above a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates for March 15 was 214, up 3 points (1½ percent) from mid-February. Higher prices for feeder livestock, feed, and farm machinery were major contributors to the index rise. The index was 12 points (6 percent) higher than a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	Mar. 15 1975	Mar. 15 1976	Mar. 15 1977	Feb. 15 1978	Mar. 15 1978
NORTH CAROLINA					
Prices Received: All Farm Products...	3/ 171	171	3/ 183	184	187
All Crops.....	3/ 170	163	183	181	184
Tobacco.....	3/ 161	152	169	178	178
Oil Bearing.....	189	175	3/ 249	3/ 199	211
Grains.....	203	196	3/ 186	3/ 171	176
Commercial Vegetables.....	3/ 175	181	171	196	200
Fruits.....	190	193	227	178	205
Livestock and Livestock Products....	172	185	182	3/ 189	192
Meat Animals.....	170	210	179	218	226
Poultry.....	176	179	187	177	180
Dairy.....	162	167	169	3/ 178	175
UNITED STATES					
Prices Received, All Farm Products....	165	184	3/ 190	3/ 193	200
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services 1/	3/ 179	194	3/ 202	211	214
Parity Ratio 2/.....	92	3/ 95	3/ 94	91	93

1/ Including Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. 3/ Revised.

CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND FEED PRICES MOSTLY HIGHER

The average prices Tar Heel farmers received for crops at local markets about mid-March were higher. (See Table, Page 3.) Corn was up 7 cents per bushel to \$2.41 and oats was up 10 cents per bushel to \$1.76. Soybeans, at \$6.24, rose 54 cents per bushel.

Prices received for livestock were the same or higher. Hogs and milk cows were unchanged from February at \$46.50 per hundredweight and \$335.00 per head respectively. Beef cattle increased \$4.20 per hundredweight while veal calves were up \$7.00 per hundredweight from February.

Feed prices paid by North Carolina farmers during March were mostly higher. (See Table, Page 3.) Mixed dairy feed containing 16 percent protein increased \$4.00 per ton from February to \$144.00. Twenty percent protein dairy feed, at \$147.00, was up \$3.00 per ton. Broiler grower decreased \$1.00 per ton to \$166.00 while laying feed increased \$3.00 per ton to \$156.00. Bran showed an increase of 20 cents per hundredweight, and corn meal rose 20 cents to \$6.20 per hundredweight. Soybean meal (44 percent protein) was up 50 cents per hundredweight to \$12.00.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		Mar. 15 1977	Feb. 15 1978	Mar. 15 1978*	Mar. 15 1977	Feb. 15 1978	Mar. 15 1978*
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	-	-	-	1.221	1.233	1.202
Corn.....	Bu.	2.55	2/ 2.34	2.41	2.35	2.03	2.11
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.43	2.59	2.65
Oats.....	Bu.	1.86	2/ 1.66	1.76	1.64	1.22	1.15
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.25	1.98	1.82
Sorghum Grains..	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.55	3.20	3.26
Soybeans.....	Bu.	8.09	2/ 5.70	6.24	7.83	5.53	6.28
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.701	.503	.507
Cottonseed.....	Ton	-	-	-	101.00	68.00	-
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.756	.727	.721
Hogs.....	Cwt.	37.00	46.50	46.50	37.10	47.00	46.80
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt.	28.90	32.90	37.10	33.80	39.90	43.80
Veal Calves.....	Cwt.	37.00	42.40	49.40	36.60	44.50	49.10
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	330.00	335.00	335.00	489.00	538.00	563.00
Com'l. Broilers..	Lb.	.235	.235	.235	.243	.243	.248
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.380	.360	.380	.342	.371	.378
Eggs <u>1/</u>	Doz.	.706	.617	.638	.588	.551	.554
Milk, Whlse.....	Cwt.	10.80	2/ 11.40	11.20	9.43	10.20	10.20
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.62	3.19	3.24
Sweet Potatoes..	Cwt.	7.50	10.40	11.10	9.75	12.40	13.20
Apples, Com'l...	Lb.	.146	.100	.128	.114	.136	.148
Hay, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	63.90	51.80	51.40
Alfalfa Hay....	Ton	-	-	-	68.00	53.70	53.10
Other.....	Ton	-	-	-	55.40	48.00	47.80

1/ Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers. 2/ Revised. * Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	Mar. 15 1977	Feb. 15 1978	Mar. 15 1978	Mar. 15 1977	Feb. 15 1978	Mar. 15 1978
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed						
14% Protein.....	148.00	-	-	141.00	125.00	126.00
16% Protein.....	155.00	140.00	144.00	148.00	134.00	135.00
18% Protein.....	-	138.00	144.00	-	146.00	148.00
20% Protein.....	-	144.00	147.00	-	147.00	149.00
32% Protein.....	215.00	194.00	195.00	217.00	192.00	197.00
Poultry Feeds						
Chick Starter.....	192.00	174.00	171.00	184.00	166.00	170.00
Broiler Grower.....	187.00	167.00	166.00	179.00	164.00	167.00
Laying Feed <u>1/</u>	165.00	153.00	156.00	161.00	146.00	149.00
Turkey Grower <u>1/</u>	188.00	191.00	193.00	188.00	177.00	179.00
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products						
Bran.....	8.00	7.60	7.80	7.85	7.39	7.40
Middlings.....	7.40	7.10	7.20	7.73	7.31	7.31
Corn Meal.....	6.40	6.00	6.20	6.18	5.59	5.69
High Protein Feeds						
Cottonseed Meal 41%.	13.00	11.50	12.00	12.00	10.50	10.50
Soybean Meal 44%....	14.00	11.50	12.00	13.70	10.90	11.30

1/ Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

N. C. CHICK HATCH RISES

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 29.3 million broiler-type chicks and 930,000 egg-type chicks during February 1978. This is an increase of 2 percent and 4 percent respectively from a year earlier.

In the United States, the February hatch of broiler-type chicks, at

281.9 million, was 6 percent more than February 1977. Egg-type chicks hatched totaled 37.1 million, a decrease of 9 percent from a year ago. The number of eggs in incubators on March 1, 1978 for the South Atlantic States increased 4 percent for broiler-type but decreased 4 percent for egg-type.

CHICKS HATCHED -- FEBRUARY

STATE	BROILER-TYPE			EGG-TYPE		
	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>
North Carolina	28,847	29,300	102	895	930	104
South Carolina	2,811	3,045	108	835	702	84
Georgia	39,527	42,391	107	4,650	4,223	91
Florida	7,050	7,374	105	3,612	3,059	85
Delaware	12,316	13,611	111	//	//	-
Maryland	15,796	16,690	106	//	//	-
Virginia	7,761	8,637	111	351	586	167
UNITED STATES	266,000	281,893	106	40,893	37,123	91

// Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

U. S. TURKEY HATCH UP 8 PERCENT

The hatch of 13.7 million turkey poults during February was 8 percent above a year ago. The hatch of heavy breeds was up 13 percent from February 1977 but light breed poults hatched were down 44 percent.

The 23.0 million turkey eggs in incubators on March 1, 1978 were down 1 percent from a year earlier. Eggs set for heavy breed turkeys were up 3 percent from last year but light breeds were down 48 percent.

POULTS HATCHED -- FEBRUARY

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	HEAVY BREEDS 1/		LIGHT BREEDS 2/		ALL BREEDS		
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>						<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	172	93	0	0	172	93	54
East North Central	1,325	1,480	7	0	1,332	1,480	111
West North Central	4,060	4,143	628	341	4,688	4,484	96
South Atlantic	1,874	2,739	318	264	2,192	3,003	137
South Central	1,653	1,905	0	0	1,653	1,905	115
West	2,529	2,764	132	5	2,661	2,769	104
UNITED STATES	11,613	13,124	1,085	610	12,698	13,734	108

1/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is 12 pounds or over.

2/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is under 12 pounds.

FEBRUARY EGG PRODUCTION UP

Egg Production on North Carolina farms during February 1978 is estimated at 246 million, up 16 percent from February last year. The number of layers on hand during the month was 13.7 million compared to 12.0 million during February 1977. Eggs laid per 100 layers, at 1,795, is 1 percent above February a year ago.

Throughout the United States, laying flocks produced 5.1 billion eggs during February, an increase of 3 percent from 1977. There were 281 million layers on hand during February, up 2 percent. The rate of lay per 100 layers was 1,807 eggs compared to 1,782 eggs in February 1977.

NUMBER OF LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- FEBRUARY

STATE	LAYERS ON HAND		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		TOTAL EGGS PRODUCED	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
North Carolina	11,950	13,700	1,775	1,795	212	246
Virginia	3,533	3,802	1,786	1,820	63	69
South Carolina	4,865	5,575	1,840	1,803	90	101
Georgia	22,981	24,325	1,756	1,865	404	454
Florida	12,919	12,538	1,775	1,795	229	225
UNITED STATES	275,643	281,334	1,782	1,807	4,912	5,083

CASH INCOME FROM FARM MARKETINGS -- NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES

ITEM	1975	1976	1977*
Thousand Dollars			
NORTH CAROLINA			
All Commodities.....	2,641,496	2,821,612	2,636,521
All Crops.....	1,638,447	1,748,541	1,526,474
Tobacco, All Types..	951,356	998,699	866,020
Corn.....	206,253	241,331	154,891
Soybeans.....	165,743	151,217	138,029
Peanuts.....	72,760	85,490	87,161
Cotton, Lint & Seed.	14,736	17,152	20,351
Vegetables.....	82,198	85,516	90,269
Fruits and Nuts.....	29,714	37,506	39,244
Other Crops <u>1/</u>	115,687	131,630	130,509
All Livestock.....	1,003,049	1,073,071	1,110,047
Hogs.....	245,172	259,869	255,765
Cattle and Calves...	56,123	67,527	69,745
Milk.....	150,614	163,502	172,971
Broilers.....	286,147	300,010	320,778
Chicken Eggs.....	144,125	155,105	155,702
Turkeys.....	89,994	99,365	104,849
Other Livestock.....	30,874	27,693	30,237
Million Dollars			
UNITED STATES			
All Commodities <u>2/</u>	88,077	94,326	95,025
All Crops.....	45,053	47,937	47,572
All Livestock.....	43,024	46,389	47,453

* Preliminary. *1/* Includes farm forest products, nursery, seeds, and other field crops. *2/* Totals may not add due to rounding.

HOG NUMBERS (Cont'd. From Page 1)

percent above the same period a year ago. June-August 1978 farrowings are expected to total 123,000, the same as June-August last year.

The State's pig crop December 1977-February 1978 totaled 805,000 head, an increase of 8 percent from the comparable period a year earlier. This pig crop was the result of 115,000 sows farrowing. Litters averaged 7.0 pigs compared with 6.8 pigs per litter for the same period a year earlier.

Hogs and pigs on farms March 1, 1978 in the 14 Quarterly States are estimated at 44.7 million head, up 1 per-

cent from a year earlier and 10 percent above March 1, 1976. Hogs and pigs kept for breeding are estimated at 6.9 million and market hogs and pigs are estimated to total 37.8 million head.

Producers in the 14 States intend to farrow 2.9 million sows during the March-May 1978 period. If realized, farrowings would be 1 percent above March-May 1977 and 1 percent above the same period of 1976. Sows to farrow the following quarter, June-August 1978 were set at 2.7 million, 2 percent less than the same period last year.

HOGS AND PIGS -- MARCH 1, 1978 REPORT; Number On Farms, Sows Farrowing, and Pig Crop, 1977-1978

	NORTH CAROLINA			14 STATES*		
	1977	1978	1978 AS % 1977	1977	1978	1978 AS % 1977
	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>
NUMBER ON FARMS MARCH 1:						
All Hogs and Pigs.....	1,800	2,000	111	44,100	44,680	101
Kept for Breeding...	288	310	108	7,016	6,930	99
Market.....	1,512	1,690	112	37,084	37,750	102
Market Hogs and Pigs						
By Weight Groups:						
Under 60 pounds.....	612	693	113	14,225	14,569	102
60-119 pounds.....	405	414	102	8,601	8,975	104
120-179 pounds.....	304	338	111	8,401	8,341	99
180-219 pounds.....	157	211	134	5,007	5,023	100
220 pounds and over.	34	34	100	850	842	99
NUMBER ON FARMS DEC. 1:						
All Hogs and Pigs.....	2,300	-	-	48,380	-	-
Kept for Breeding...	340	-	-	7,335	-	-
Market.....	1,960	-	-	41,045	-	-
SOWS FARROWING:						
December <u>1</u> / - February	110	115	105	2,304	2,285	99
March - May.....	108	<u>2</u> / 120	111	2,893	<u>2</u> / 2,935	101
June-August.....	123	<u>2</u> / 123	100	2,716	<u>2</u> / 2,675	98
September - November..	100	-	-	2,593	-	-
PIG CROP:						
December <u>1</u> / - February	748	805	108	15,586	15,626	100
PIGS PER LITTER:	<i>Number</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Number</i>		<i>Percent</i>
December <u>1</u> / - February	6.80	7.00	103	6.76	6.84	101

1/ December preceding year. 2/ Intentions. * Includes Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin.

FEBRUARY SLAUGHTER DOWN IN NORTH CAROLINA

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during February 1978 totaled 45.7 million pounds live weight, a decrease of 2 percent from February 1977. The number of head slaughtered was up slightly to 166,200.

Cattle slaughtered decreased 11 percent to 12.3 million pounds live weight. Calf slaughter was down 41 percent to 126,000 pounds live weight. Hog kill, at 33.3 million pounds live weight, rose 2 percent. There were no sheep or lambs reported killed during February 1978.

The average live weight per head for cattle slaughtered during February was 875 pounds, down 16 pounds from February a year earlier. The average weight for calves was down 4 pounds to

246. Hogs, at 219 pounds, were down 1 pound from February 1977.

Red meat production in North Carolina during February 1978, at 30.0 million pounds, was 2 percent below February 1977.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in February 1978 totaled 3.0 billion pounds, down 1 percent from February 1977. January-February total red meat output at nearly 6.3 billion pounds was 1 percent below last year ... change by individual components: beef, down 2 percent; veal, down 10; pork, up 1; lamb and mutton, down 16. Commercial meat production includes slaughter in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER L

SPECIES	FEBRUARY				JANUARY THROUGH FEBRUARY			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
NORTH CAROLINA								
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	15.5	14.1	13,817	12,321	33.4	29.9	29,669	26,177
Calves	.9	.5	214	126	1.5	1.1	346	282
Sheep & Lambs	.1	-	5	-	.1	.1	7	8
Hogs	148.6	151.6	32,672	33,279	305.0	318.8	67,474	70,302
TOTAL	165.1	166.2	46,708	45,726	340.0	349.9	97,496	96,769
UNITED STATES								
	<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	3.3	3.3	3,413	3,366	6.8	6.7	7,078	6,950
Calves	.4	.4	108	94	.9	.8	228	199
Sheep & Lambs	.5	.4	54	45	1.0	.8	111	94
Hogs	6.1	6.1	1,420	1,421	12.2	12.3	2,855	2,893
TOTAL	10.3	10.2	4,995	4,926	20.9	20.6	10,272	10,136

L Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

MILK OUTPUT SLOWED

Gains in milk output slowed substantially by early 1978. Milk production in December-January was less than 1 percent above a year earlier, following rises of more than 2 percent last summer and early fall. Most of the weakening occurred in the Midwest, perhaps partially due to the fact that a sizable proportion of feed grains fed to dairy cows is homegrown rather than purchased.

Milk-feed price relationships this year probably will be conducive to increased feeding of grain and other concentrates and substantial gains in output per cow. Higher cull cow prices probably will stimulate some heavier culling. Even so, the continued large number of replacement heifers will help to limit the decline in milk cow numbers. Gains during the first half probably will pull total 1978 milk output slightly above 1977. However, there may be

a considerable difference among regions.

In 1977, total milk output rose more than 2 percent to 123.0 billion pounds, the most produced since 1965. With farm milk prices held up by the higher support price, milk-feed price relationships were favorable through most of 1977 and resulted in large gains in output per cow. Declines in milk cow numbers stayed relatively tiny, partially because of the large number of replacement heifers.

Farmers received an average \$10.20 per 100 pounds of milk in February, up about 7 percent from a year ago. The increase from a year earlier was primarily the result of the higher support price since wholesale dairy product prices were near support purchase prices in both years. In 1977, farmers milk prices averaged \$9.72, up about a nickel from the strong market prices of 1976.

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U.S. Department of Agriculture / N.C. Department of Agriculture



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N. C. HIGHLIGHTS

Soybean acreage up 14% from last year.

Sweet potato acreage up 12% from a year ago.

Acres of oats, barley and rye up 12%, 4% and 4%, respectively, from a year earlier.

Peanut acreage unchanged from the 1977 season.

Hay acreage the same as last year.

Tobacco acreage down less than 1% from 1977.

Corn acreage 10% below last year.

Cotton acreage down 20% from a year ago.

Wheat acreage 6% below 1977.

Sorghum acreage down 5% from last year.

Summer Irish potato acreage down 5% from a year ago.

ACREAGE FOR SOYBEANS, YAMS, OATS, BARLEY AND RYE UP

North Carolinians intend to plant 1.65 million acres of soybeans during 1978. This is 14% above last year and the largest soybean acreage ever in this state. Nationally, a record number of soybean acres is also anticipated. Intended acreage at 63.7 million is 8% higher than last year.

Growers of sweet potatoes are intending to plant 38,000 acres in North Carolina. This is 12% above last year and the largest acreage since 1957 when 39,000 acres were planted. In the U. S., 123,700 acres are expected, which is about 6% more than a year ago.

Acreage for oats in North Carolina at 190,000 is up 12% from last year. Barley acreage in this state is 4% above last year at 70,000. Acres of rye at 135,000 are 4% above a year earlier and the largest rye acreage since 1964.

GENERAL CONDITION

During the first half of March, precipitation amounts were above normal in the Tar Heel State. Temperatures were above normal and precipitation lighter during the second half of the month.

Fieldwork was light early in March due to the rainfall, but accelerated later in the month when the favorable weather occurred. The major farm activities were preparing the land for spring plantings, topdressing small grains, preparing tobacco plant beds and planting Irish potatoes. At the month's end, corn plantings were underway.

Crop conditions improved during the month. The outlook for small grains is

fair to good compared with fair prospects at the beginning of March. Pasture conditions also improved and are now considered in fair condition. Grazing prospects were poor to fair at the end of February. Tobacco plant beds and Irish potatoes are in mostly fair to good condition at this time.

Supplies of hay and roughage are still short to adequate with most shortages being reported in the Piedmont area. Feed grain supplies improved during March and are considered in short to mostly adequate supply. Most of the feed grain shortages are also in the Piedmont Region.

PEANUT AND HAY ACREAGES UNCHANGED FROM 1977

Peanut acreage in the Tar Heel State is expected to total 169,000, which is the same as last year. Peanut acreage has been very stable in North Carolina for the past decade. From 1968 to present, planted acreage has been between 167,000 and 170,000. Peanut acreage in the U. S. is virtually the same as in 1977. U.S. farmers plan to plant 1.5 million acres this

year. About one-third of the acreage will be in Georgia.

Hay producers in this state indicated that 350,000 acres will be harvested this year. This is unchanged from last year. Nationally, 60.8 million acres are expected to be harvested during 1978, which is less than 1% more than 1977.

SPRING IRISH POTATO PRODUCTION DOWN

MARCH MILK PRODUCTION DOWN

Milk production in North Carolina during March 1978 was 135 million pounds. This is a decrease of 4% from the same month a year earlier. The number of milk cows on farms for March, including dry cows, totaled 145,000 head. Production per cow averaged 930 pounds.

Milk production in the U. S. totaled 10,528 million pounds in March, down less than 1% from March 1977. Average production per cow was 967 pounds, 6 pounds more than a year earlier and 38 pounds over March 1976. Milk cows were estimated at 10,883,000 head during March, off 1% from last year.

Irish potato production this spring in North Carolina is expected to total 2,145,000 cwt., which is down 3% from last spring. The production forecast for this season is based on 13,000 acres, down 400 from last season, and an expected yield of 165 cwt., unchanged from a year earlier.

The forecast of production for the U. S. is set at 19.7 million cwt.. This is 14% below last year and 20% less than the 1976 crop. Intended acreage for harvest at 90,700 is 1% below last year. The expected yield per acre at 218 cwt. is 32 cwt. less than last year's average yield of 250 cwt.. California, which produces about half the crop, expects an 18% drop in production this year. This decline is mainly due to a sharp drop in the yield forecast.

TOBACCO, CORN, COTTON, WHEAT, SORGHUM AND SUMMER IRISH POTATO ACREAGES DOWN

Flue-cured tobacco acreage in North Carolina is down 1,000 acres from last year to 382,000 acres. Acreage for burley at 9,000 is 500 acres below a year ago. Nationally, farmers intend to set 579,500 acres of flue-cured tobacco, which is 2% below last year, and 265,000 acres of burley, which is down 4% from 1977.

Intended corn acreage in the Tar Heel State is down 10% from last year to 1.75 million acres. In the U. S., acreage at 80.2 million is 3% below last year.

North Carolina's growers are intending to plant 70,000 acres of cotton. This acreage is 20% less than the previous year. The trend in this state during the past several years has been

to plant less cotton. In the U. S., cotton acreage is 6% below last year at 12.9 million acres.

Expected wheat acreage at 220,000 is 6% below last year in North Carolina and this state's smallest acreage since 1966.

Sorghum plantings in this state are down 5% from 1977. Acreage is expected to total 105,000. Nationally, growers intend to plant 15.9 million acres, which is 6% less than last year.

Summer Irish potato acreage in North Carolina is expected to total 4,000, which is 5% below last year's acreage. In the U. S., 112,000 acres of summer potatoes are expected. This acreage is 6% below a year ago.

PLANTED ACRES UP CROPS, NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES

CROPS	NORTH CAROLINA				UNITED STATES <u>L/</u>		
	1976	1977	1978 Intentions <u>2/</u>	1978 As Percent Of 1977	1976	1977	1978 Intentions <u>2/</u>
	Thousands		Percent		Thousands		
Corn, All.....	2,050	1,950	1,750	90	84,374	82,680	80,237
Oats <u>3/</u>	175	170	190	112	16,734	17,793	16,408
Barley <u>3/</u>	73	67	70	104	9,157	10,586	9,998
Winter Wheat <u>3/</u>	275	235	<u>4/</u> 220	94	57,668	55,980	<u>4/</u> 48,141
Rye <u>3/</u>	130	130	<u>4/</u> 135	104	2,652	2,652	<u>4/</u> 2,860
Sorghum, All.....	125	110	105	95	18,402	16,994	15,925
Soybeans.....	1,220	1,450	1,650	114	50,226	59,080	63,664
Peanuts.....	168	169	169	100	1,548.6	1,544.6	1,551.5
Cotton, All <u>5/</u>	75	87	70	80	11,655.5	13,711.2	12,915.1
Tobacco: Type 11 <u>6/</u> ...	185.0	160.0	150.0	94	-	-	-
Type 12 <u>6/</u> ...	203.0	177.0	184.0	104	-	-	-
Type 13 <u>6/</u> ...	51.0	46.0	48.0	104	-	-	-
All Flue-Cured <u>6/</u> ...	439.0	383.0	382.0	100	666.6	590.1	579.5
Burley <u>6/</u> ...	9.0	9.5	9.0	95	285.8	275.5	264.9
All Tobacco <u>6/</u>	448.0	392.5	391.0	100	1,044.5	965.6	944.1
Hay, All <u>6/</u>	350	350	350	100	60,311	60,493	60,831
Irish Potatoes, All...	17.5	17.7	17.1	97	1,407.3	1,389.4	1,374.1
Spring.....	13.1	13.5	13.1	97	100.4	92.8	91.9
Summer.....	4.4	4.2	4.0	95	122.4	118.7	112.0
Sweet Potatoes.....	35.0	34.0	38.0	112	122.8	117.3	123.7

L/ Data do not include Alaska and Hawaii. 2/ As of April 1, 1978. 3/ Includes acreage planted in preceding fall.
4/ Estimates made in December 1977. 5/ Includes Upland and American-Pima. 6/ Data for tobacco and hay represent harvested acres.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLE REPORT, APRIL 1, 1978

SNAP BEANS (Spring): North Carolinians expect to harvest 2,700 acres of fresh market snap beans in the spring of 1978. This acreage is unchanged from the 1977 harvested acres. North Carolina ranks third in the nation in intended acres for harvest behind Florida with 14,700 acres and Georgia with 2,900 acres.

Prospective acres for harvest during the 1978 spring quarter in the major producing states (Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, New Jersey and California) are expected to total 23,950, up 6% from a year earlier.

CABBAGE (Spring): Growers of spring cabbage in North Carolina intend to harvest 2,500 acres this year. This is 300 acres more than were harvested during the spring quarter of 1977. North Carolina is surpassed only by

Florida with 5,500 acres and Texas with 4,300 acres.

Intended acres for harvest in the major producing states is expected to total 17,700 or 3% more than the 1977 spring acreage.

CUCUMBERS (Spring): Farmers in the Tar Heel State plan to harvest 3,500 acres of spring cucumbers for fresh market. This is an increase of 500 acres over the 1977 harvested acreage. North Carolina is second to Florida in acreage, which intends to harvest 7,400 acres this spring.

Acreage for harvest in the major producing states at 18,150 is down 4% from the 1977 spring acreage. Florida, California, and South Carolina show declines in acres for harvest while Texas and North Carolina show increases in acreage.

Jack Nealon
Mathematical Statistician

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U.S. Department of Agriculture / N.C. Department of Agriculture

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NORTH CAROLINA GRAIN STOCKS DOWN 40 PERCENT

Grain stocks in all North Carolina storage positions on April 1, 1978 were down 40 percent from the same date last year. All grain crops except barley declined. Barley stocks showed a moderate increase. Comparisons for rye stocks are not published.

Corn in storage totaled 27 million bushels, off 48 percent from April 1, 1977. On-farm stocks were down 63 percent and off-farm holdings were down 10 percent from last year.

(See Grain Stocks, Page 7)

POULTRY GROSS INCOME HIGHER

North Carolina's gross farm income from poultry and poultry products during the marketing year ending December 1, 1977 totaled \$606 million, 7 percent above the \$566 million received in 1976.

Although poultrymen raised 20 percent more chickens (excluding broilers) in 1977 than they raised in 1976, gross income was down slightly to \$14.7 million due to a 14 percent drop in average price per pound. Egg production increased 8 percent, enough to offset a 1 percent drop in average price per dozen and still show a gross income of \$164 million. Broiler production, at 1,357 million pounds, rose 8 percent but price per pound decreased slightly for a gross income of \$317.6 million. Turkey income in 1977 was up 11 percent to \$110 million.

(See Table, Page 7)

APRIL PRICE INDEX RISES

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets during April is 191 (1967 = 100), up 2 points from March 1978 and 7 points from April 1977.

The April "All Crops" index, at 188 is 2 points above March. Oil bearing crops rose the most at 9 points. Grains were up 7 points to 190. Commercial vegetables were down 3 points to 197 while fruits remained the same at 205.

The "Livestock and Livestock Products" index increased 3 points from March. Meat animals and dairy were down 4 points to 222 and 2 points to 178 respectively. Poultry, at 189, was up 9 points.

(See Table, Page 2)

MARCH EGG PRODUCTION RISES

Egg production on Tar Heel farms during March 1978 is estimated at 280 million, an increase of 17 percent from March last year. The number of layers on hand during the month was 13.8 million compared to 11.8 million during March 1977. Eggs laid per 100 layers, at 2,034, is 1 percent below the same period a year ago.

Laying flocks in the United States produced 5.7 billion eggs during March, 2 percent above March a year ago. The number of layers on hand during the month increased 2 percent from March 1977. The rate of lay averaged 1 percent higher.

(See Table, Page 5)

U. S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 8 POINTS PRICES PAID INDEX UP 2 POINTS

The April Index of Prices Received by Farmers increased 8 points (4 percent) to 208 percent of its January-December 1967 average. Contributing most to the increase since March were higher prices for cattle, soybeans, corn, broilers, wheat, tomatoes and lettuce. Lower prices for hogs, oranges and eggs were partially offsetting. The index was 17 points (9 percent) above a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates for April 15 was 216, up 2 points (1 percent) from mid-March. Higher prices for feeder livestock and feed accounted for most of the index rise. The index was 12 points (6 percent) higher than a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	Apr. 15 1975	Apr. 15 1976	Apr. 15 1977	Mar. 15 1978	Apr. 15 1978
NORTH CAROLINA					
Prices Received: All Farm Products...	3/ 171	170	184	3/ 189	191
All Crops.....	3/ 172	3/ 162	3/ 187	3/ 186	188
Tobacco.....	3/ 161	152	169	178	178
Oil Bearing.....	199	174	274	3/ 221	230
Grains.....	210	194	3/ 188	3/ 183	190
Commercial Vegetables.....	3/ 1	183	175	200	197
Fruits.....	3/ 1	3/ 172	227	205	205
Livestock and Livestock Products....	3/ 165	3/ 183	179	3/ 193	196
Meat Animals.....	3/ 175	3/ 218	174	226	222
Poultry.....	168	172	186	180	189
Dairy.....	3/ 159	3/ 162	167	3/ 180	178
UNITED STATES					
Prices Received, All Farm Products....	170	3/ 189	3/ 191	200	208
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services 1/	3/ 182	3/ 191	204	214	216
Parity Ratio 2/.....	93	3/ 99	3/ 94	93	96

1/ Including interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. 3/ Revised.

CROP, LIVESTOCK PRICES MOSTLY HIGHER, FEED MIXED

Higher prices were received for crops by North Carolina farmers at local markets about mid-April. (See Table, Page 3.) Soybeans, at \$7.10 per bushel, were 42 cents above the value of a year earlier. Corn rose 9 cents to \$2.60 per bushel while oats increased 8 cents to \$1.80.

Prices received for livestock were mostly higher. Beef cattle averaged \$38.80 per hundredweight, up \$1.70; and veal calves averaged \$51.20, an increase of \$1.80 per hundredweight. Milk cows, at \$345.00, were \$10.00 per head higher

than a year earlier. Hogs were off \$2.00 to \$44.50 per hundredweight.

Feed prices paid by the State's farmers during April were mixed. (See Table, Page 3.) Mixed dairy feed with 20 percent protein was up \$1.00 per ton to \$148.00. Broiler grower increased \$5.00 to \$171.00 per ton. Turkey grower, at \$190.00, was down \$3.00 per ton. Bran dropped 10 cents to \$7.70 per hundredweight, and soybean meal (44 percent protein) rose 50 cents to \$12.50 per hundredweight.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		Apr. 15 1977	Mar. 15 1978	Apr. 15 1978*	Apr. 15 1977	Mar. 15 1978	Apr. 15 1978*
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	-	-	-	1.108	1.202	1.184
Corn.....	Bu.	2/ 2.57	2/ 2.51	2.60	2.31	2.15	2.26
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.37	2.67	2.83
Oats.....	Bu.	2/ 1.96	2/ 1.72	1.80	1.64	1.16	1.21
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.22	1.89	1.96
Sorghum Grains.	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.44	3.37	3.52
Soybeans.....	Bu.	2/ 9.23	2/ 6.68	7.10	9.05	6.20	6.74
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.603	.513	.507
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.725	.721	.737
Hogs.....	Cwt.	35.50	46.50	44.50	36.00	46.80	44.80
Beef Cattle....	Cwt.	29.90	37.10	38.00	35.30	43.80	47.30
Veal Calves....	Cwt.	39.00	49.40	51.00	38.20	49.10	52.90
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	330.00	335.00	345.00	497.00	563.00	579.00
Com'l. Broilers	Lb.	.240	.235	.265	.242	.248	.281
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.350	.380	.380	.335	.378	.379
Eggs <u>1</u> /.....	Doz.	.687	.638	.608	.554	.554	.522
Milk, Whlse....	Cwt.	10.70	11.50	11.40	9.43	10.20	10.10
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.99	3.24	3.39
Sweet Potatoes.	Cwt.	8.20	11.10	10.65	10.51	13.20	12.90
Apples, Com'l.	Lb.	-	.128	-	.123	.148	.152
Hay, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	63.20	51.40	51.40
Alfalfa Hay....	Ton	-	-	-	67.70	53.10	53.40
Other.....	Ton	-	-	-	52.60	47.80	46.70

1/ Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers.

2/ Revised.

* Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	Apr. 15 1977	Mar. 15 1978	Apr. 15 1978	Apr. 15 1977	Mar. 15 1978	Apr. 15 1978
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed	143.00	-	-	142.00	126.00	129.00
14% Protein.....	148.00	144.00	145.00	148.00	135.00	137.00
16% Protein.....	-	144.00	146.00	-	148.00	149.00
18% Protein.....	-	147.00	148.00	-	149.00	151.00
20% Protein.....	220.00	195.00	190.00	225.00	197.00	203.00
32% Protein.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poultry Feeds	190.00	171.00	178.00	188.00	170.00	175.00
Chick Starter.....	190.00	166.00	171.00	183.00	167.00	169.00
Broiler Grower.....	168.00	156.00	156.00	163.00	149.00	154.00
Laying Feed <u>1</u> /.....	192.00	193.00	190.00	195.00	179.00	183.00
Turkey Grower <u>1</u> /.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products	7.80	7.80	7.70	7.79	7.40	7.45
Bran.....	7.50	7.20	7.20	7.63	7.31	7.44
Middlings.....	6.30	6.20	6.40	6.17	5.69	5.98
Corn Meal.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
High Protein Feeds	13.50	12.00	12.00	12.20	10.50	10.60
Cottonseed Meal 41%.	15.00	12.00	12.50	15.10	11.30	11.90
Soybean Meal 44%....	-	-	-	-	-	-

1/ Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

N. C. EGG-TYPE HATCH UP

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 33.6 million broiler-type chicks and 1.6 million egg-type chicks during March 1978. This is a decrease of 1 percent for broiler-type and an increase of 73 percent for egg-type chicks from a year earlier.

In the United States, the March hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 332.3

million, was 3 percent more than March 1977. Egg-type chicks hatched totaled 47.0 million, a decrease of 8 percent from a year ago. The number of eggs in incubators on April 1, 1978 for the South Atlantic States increased 5 percent for broiler-type but dropped 5 percent for egg-type.

CHICKS HATCHED -- MARCH

STATE	BROILER-TYPE			EGG-TYPE		
	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>
North Carolina	34,008	33,589	99	904	1,560	173
South Carolina	3,269	3,445	105	750	815	109
Georgia	46,256	48,467	105	5,999	5,599	93
Florida	8,200	8,566	104	4,521	3,828	85
Delaware	14,861	15,456	104	<i>L/</i>	<i>L/</i>	-
Maryland	18,669	19,093	102	<i>L/</i>	<i>L/</i>	-
Virginia	9,070	9,668	107	686	497	72
UNITED STATES	323,192	332,252	103	51,265	46,992	92

L/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

U. S. TURKEY HATCH UNCHANGED

The U. S. hatch of 18.1 million turkey poults during March was virtually the same as a year ago. Heavy breed hatch was up 4 percent from March 1977 but light breed poults were down 50 percent.

The 25.4 million turkey eggs in incubators on April 1, 1978, were 2 percent fewer than a year earlier. Eggs set for heavy breed turkeys were up 1 percent from last year but light breeds were down 46 percent.

POULTS HATCHED -- MARCH

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	HEAVY BREEDS <i>L/</i>		LIGHT BREEDS <i>2/</i>		ALL BREEDS		
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>				<i>Percent</i>		
North Atlantic	275	173	24	4	299	177	59
East North Central	1,941	2,301	68	0	2,009	2,301	115
West North Central	6,268	6,489	703	359	6,971	6,848	98
South Atlantic	2,794	3,091	334	284	3,128	3,375	108
South Central	1,912	1,988	0	0	1,912	1,988	104
West	3,583	3,379	177	5	3,760	3,384	90
UNITED STATES	16,773	17,421	1,306	652	18,079	18,073	100

L/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is 12 pounds or over.

2/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is under 12 pounds.

NUMBER OF LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- MARCH

STATE	LAYERS ON HAND		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		TOTAL EGGS PRODUCED	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
North Carolina	11,750	13,775	2,046	2,034	240	280
Virginia	3,444	3,811	2,006	2,009	69	77
South Carolina	4,865	5,540	2,086	2,105	101	117
Georgia	23,200	23,800	2,012	2,049	467	488
Florida	12,571	12,317	2,065	2,018	260	249
UNITED STATES	273,895	278,377	2,021	2,035	5,536	5,664

N. C. MARCH SLAUGHTER DOWN

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during March 1978 totaled 51.2 million pounds live weight, a decrease of 5 percent from March 1977. The number of head slaughtered was down 3 percent to 187,300.

Cattle slaughtered dropped 11 percent to 13.1 million pounds live weight. Hog kill, at 37.9 million pounds live

weight decreased 3 percent.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in March 1978 totaled 3.3 billion pounds, down 6 percent from March 1977. Commercial meat production includes slaughter in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER 1/

SPECIES	MARCH				JANUARY THROUGH MARCH			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
NORTH CAROLINA								
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	16.5	14.8	14,682	13,121	49.9	44.7	44,352	39,298
Calves	.6	.6	116	148	2.1	1.7	463	430
Sheep & Lambs	-	.1	-	6	.1	.1	9	14
Hogs	176.4	171.8	39,059	37,917	481.4	490.6	106,532	108,218
TOTAL	193.5	187.3	53,857	51,192	533.5	537.1	151,356	147,960
UNITED STATES								
	<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	3.6	3.5	3,757	3,562	10.5	10.2	10,835	10,512
Calves	.5	.4	121	104	1.4	1.3	348	303
Sheep & Lambs	.6	.5	68	56	1.6	1.3	179	150
Hogs	7.5	7.1	1,761	1,652	19.8	19.4	4,616	4,545
TOTAL	12.2	11.5	5,707	5,374	33.3	32.2	15,978	15,510

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

LIVESTOCK CASH RECEIPTS DECLINE

The estimated cash receipts of North Carolina farmers from the sale of meat animals in 1977 totaled \$271 million, a decrease of 19 percent from 1976. This drop is accountable to a decrease in number of head marketed as well as a drop in average price for most species.

Sheep and lambs show the largest decline in cash receipts at 28 percent.

This combines a drop of 22 percent in marketings with a drop of 5 percent in the average hundredweight price for lambs.

Hogs had a similar pattern. Cash receipts were down 21 percent to \$208 million.

Cattle and calves showed the least decline with a drop of 14 percent in cash receipts to \$63 million.

NORTH CAROLINA LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION AND INCOME, 1976-1977

ITEMS	1976	1977	PERCENT CHANGE FROM 1976
CATTLE AND CALVES:			
Calves born.....No.	490,000	500,000	2.0
Inshipments.....No.	9,000	6,000	- 33.3
Marketings <u>2</u> /:			
Cattle.....No.	246,000	211,000	- 14.2
Calves.....No.	235,000	197,000	- 16.2
Price Per hundredweight:			
Cattle.....Dols.	26.90	26.70	- .7
Calves.....Dols.	34.40	34.80	1.2
Cash Receipts <u>1</u> /.....Dols.	72,983,000	62,857,000	- 13.9
Gross Income.....Dols.	83,622,000	70,607,000	- 15.6
HOGS:			
Pigs saved.....No.	3,138,000	3,175,000	1.2
Inshipments.....No.	67,000	85,000	26.9
Marketings <u>2</u> /.....No.	2,750,000	2,500,000	- 9.1
Price per hundredweight....Dols.	44.50	39.10	- 12.1
Cash Receipts <u>1</u> /.....Dols.	263,723,000	208,208,000	- 21.0
Gross Income.....Dols.	287,933,000	228,736,000	- 20.6
SHEEP AND LAMBS:			
Lambs saved.....No.	7,400	6,800	- 8.1
Inshipments.....No.	-	-	-
Marketings <u>2</u> /			
Sheep.....No.	2,100	1,600	- 23.8
Lambs.....No.	3,700	2,900	- 21.6
Price per hundredweight:			
Sheep.....Dols.	14.00	14.00	0
Lambs.....Dols.	38.00	36.00	- 5.3
Cash Receipts <u>1</u> /.....Dols.	150,000	108,000	- 28.0
Gross Income.....Dols.	186,000	142,000	- 23.7
ALL MEAT ANIMALS:			
Cash Receipts <u>1</u> /.....Dols.	336,856,000	271,173,000	- 19.5
Gross Income.....Dols.	371,741,000	299,485,000	- 19.4
WOOL:			
Sheep Shorn.....No.	9,000	8,000	- 11.1
Weight per fleece.....Lbs.	6.5	6.4	- 1.5
Wool produced.....Lbs.	59,000	51,000	- 13.6
Price per pound <u>3</u> /.....Dols.	.68	.74	8.8
Value <u>4</u> /.....Dols.	40,000	38,000	- 5.0

1/ Receipts from marketings and sale of farm slaughter. 2/ Excludes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and interfarm sales within the State.
3/ Monthly price weighted by monthly sales of wool. 4/ Production multiplied by annual average price.

NORTH CAROLINA POULTRY PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION AND INCOME, 1976-1977

ITEMS	1976	1977	PERCENT CHANGE FROM 1976
EGGS:			
Number of layers (thous.).....	11,591	12,374	6.8
Eggs per layer (number) <u>1/</u>	238	240	1.0
Eggs produced (million).....	2,756	2,968	7.7
Eggs sold (million).....	2,735	2,949	7.8
Price per dozen (cents).....	67.1	66.3	- 1.2
Cash Receipts (thous. dollars).....	152,932	162,932	6.5
Gross Income (thous. dollars).....	154,106	163,982	6.4
CHICKENS: <u>2/</u>			
Number raised (thousands).....	14,020	16,760	19.5
Number sold (thousands).....	10,000	10,900	9.0
Pounds sold (thousands).....	70,000	81,750	16.8
Price per pound (cents).....	19.8	17.0	- 14.2
Cash Receipts (thous. dollars).....	13,860	13,898	0
Gross Income (thous. dollars).....	14,751	14,663	- .6
COMMERCIAL BROILERS:			
Number produced (thousands).....	315,589	339,271	7.5
Pounds produced (thousands).....	1,262,356	1,357,084	7.5
Price per pound (cents).....	23.6	23.4	- .8
Gross Income (thous. dollars).....	297,916	317,558	6.6
EGGS, CHICKENS AND BROILERS:			
Cash receipts (thous. dollars).....	464,708	494,388	6.4
Gross Income (thous. dollars).....	466,773	496,203	6.3
TURKEYS:			
Number raised - total (thous.).....	16,700	16,500	- 1.2
Heavy breeds (thousands).....	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	-
Light breeds (thousands).....	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	-
Pounds produced (thousands).....	283,900	290,400	2.3
Price per pound (cents).....	35.0	37.9	8.3
Gross Income (thous. dollars).....	99,365	110,062	10.8
EGGS, CHICKENS, BROILERS AND TURKEYS:			
Gross Income (thous. dollars).....	566,138	606,265	7.1

1/ Average number laid during year. 2/ Does not include commercial broilers.

3/ Breakdown by breeds combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

GRAIN STOCKS (Cont'd. From Page 1)

Wheat stocks in all positions amounted to 1.7 million bushels, 28 percent less than a year ago. Both on-farm and off-farm holdings declined, 24 and 29 percent respectively.

Soybeans stored in all positions totaled 8.5 million bushels, a decrease of nearly 5 percent from a year earlier. On-farm stocks increased 42 percent but off-farm holdings were down 29 percent.

U. S. WHEAT, FEED GRAINS AND SOYBEANS
ABOVE A YEAR AGO

U. S. stocks of the four feed grains totaled 119 million metric tons, 20 percent above April 1, 1977. Corn stored in all positions totaled a record 3.84 billion bushels (97.6 million metric tons), up 17 percent from last year.

Soybeans in all positions on April 1, 1978 totaled 843 million bushels (22.9 million metric tons), up 36 percent from a year ago but down 3 percent from April 1, two years ago.

(See Table, Page 8)

STOCKS OF GRAINS -- APRIL 1

CROP	OFF-FARM TOTAL April 1 <u>1</u>		ON-FARM TOTAL April 1		TOTAL ALL POSITIONS April 1 <u>2</u>	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
<i>Thousand Bushels</i>						
<u>NORTH CAROLINA</u>						
Corn for grain	14,390	12,959	37,600	13,790	51,990	26,749
Soybeans	5,800	4,116	3,075	4,356	8,875	8,472
Wheat	1,730	1,233	592	450	2,322	1,683
Oats	400	268	432	473	832	741
Sorghum grain	304	162	390	373	694	535
Rye	23	*	11	40	34	*
Barley	87	93	374	396	461	489
<u>UNITED STATES</u>						
Corn for grain	1,159,329	1,355,667	2,133,737	2,484,762	3,293,066	3,840,429
Soybeans	390,214	457,840	227,723	384,772	617,937	842,612
All Wheat	878,534	880,666	510,976	642,829	1,389,510	1,523,495
Oats	47,459	61,172	211,615	356,146	259,074	417,318
Sorghum grain	208,250	271,851	88,362	140,545	296,612	412,396
Rye	3,367	1,941	2,841	3,975	6,208	5,916
Barley	97,316	87,517	90,752	148,467	188,068	235,984

1 Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, processors, and CCC-owned grain at bin sites. 2 Off-farm total plus farm stocks.

* Unpublished to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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APRIL WEATHER

North Carolina experienced a wide spectrum of weather variations during April. The extremes ranged from hot, dry, above normal temperatures to an unseasonably cold deluge of rain, with snow resulting in the Mountain Region.

The early part of April was characterized by warm, above normal temperatures. No measurable rainfall during the first half of April enhanced fieldwork. This favorable spring weather accelerated major farm activities of land preparation and plantings. Crop conditions during this time improved from March, with all small grain crops considered in fair to good condition. Corn planting progressed at a rapid rate, well ahead of schedule.

By mid-month, readings began dipping below normal, accompanied by some light precipitation. Some heavier showers did occur over the Coastal Plains with rainfall of 1 to 2 inches. This, however, was not enough to affect farm activities. The mild and dry conditions did bring some soil moisture shortages, especially in the Mountain and Piedmont Regions. The first half of April had two consecutive weeks of over 5 days suitable for fieldwork.

Toward the latter part of April, seasonal temperatures began giving way to a period of colder weather. Temperatures averaged 3 to 9 degrees below normal. Precipitation became moderate to heavy in some areas. By the end of the month, above normal rainfall soaked North Carolina. Up to 14 inches of rain were reported in some areas of the mountains, elsewhere, the storm dumped between 4 and 6 inches of precipitation. Flooding hit many areas with some crop damage reported.

Even with these adverse weather conditions, corn planting continued well ahead of schedule and was about 80% complete as of April 29. This compares

with 77% a year earlier and a five-year average of 62%. Tobacco condition was reported fair to good with transplanting about 16% complete by the end of April. This is well behind last year's figure of 32% and the average of 33% set. Cotton planting slowed toward the end of the month. The late April figure of 35% planted in behind both last year and the average of 42%. Wet conditions and cool nights are hampering cotton progress. Peanut plantings averaged 6% complete, statewide. This is less than last year's progress of 18% and the average of 17%. Soybean plantings by April 29 were still less than 5% complete, which is comparable with the past year and the five-year average. Sorghum is presently about 14% complete, slightly ahead of 1977's 12%.

FEBRUARY FERTILIZER CONSUMPTION DOWN 41 PERCENT

February 1978 fertilizer consumption was 41% less than a year earlier based on reports submitted by State Fertilizer Control Officials in the 19 States for which comparable monthly data are available. Consumption decreased in every State. Mixed fertilizer tonnages and materials for direct application were both down 41% when compared to one year ago.

The July-February total for the 19 States having comparable data indicate a 20% decrease in fertilizer consumed compared with the same period a year earlier. Nitrogen materials for direct application declined 23%, Phosphate materials declined 3% and Potash materials declined 13%. Mixed fertilizer tonnages were down 20% compared with year-to-date consumption a year ago. All 19 States now report decreases from 1976-77.

1977 U. S. COTTON PRODUCTION UP

Farmers in North Carolina harvested cotton from 83,000 acres in 1977, an increase of 12,000 acres from the previous year. On the other hand, yield per acre in 1977 dropped sharply to 305 pounds from 489 pounds in 1976. Production at 53,000 bales was down 26% from the 1976 season.

In the U. S., acreage and yield increased in 1977. Acres harvested at 13.3 million was 22% above the 1976 acreage level. Yield per acre in 1977 averaged 520 pounds, which was 12% higher than the prior year. Production at 14.4 million bales during 1977 was 36% above the 1976 output.

COTTON: Acreage, Yield and Production

STATE	AREA HARVESTED		YIELD		PRODUCTION	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>1,000 Bales</i>	
UPLAND						
Alabama.....	420	395	399	337	349	277
Arizona.....	340	515	1,178	997	834	1,070
Arkansas.....	950	930	392	534	776	1,035
California.....	1,120	1,390	1,064	964	2,482	2,790
Louisiana.....	560	540	474	583	553	656
Mississippi....	1,470	1,360	376	581	1,151	1,645
Missouri.....	260	262	305	431	165	235
NORTH CAROLINA.	71	83	489	305	72	53
Oklahoma.....	335	520	251	402	175	436
Tennessee.....	370	300	295	407	228	255
Texas.....	4,500	6,450	353	407	3,307	5,465
AMER-PIMA						
Arizona.....	30.0	42.3	804	738	50.3	65.0
Texas.....	8.0	22.5	444	747	7.4	35.0
United States..	10,913.5	13,279.3	465	520	10,580.6	14,389.2

1978 COTTON OUTLOOK

PRODUCTION: U.S. cotton production could range between 11 million and 13 million bales in 1978--compared with 14.4 million in 1977. Smaller production will be a big step toward correcting the supply/demand imbalance which has dominated the cotton market recently.

SMALLER ACREAGE: Because of acreage reduction programs for cotton and feed grains and relatively strong soybean prices, farmers are planting fewer acres to cotton. About 12.9 million acres were indicated in a USDA survey taken March 27-April 4, compared with 13.7 million last year. The sharpest planned decreases were in the Southeast. Acreage in the Far West could increase 5 percent.

However, during the planting inten-

tions survey, USDA announced a 10 percent paid diversion program for cotton that could cut plantings another half million acres or so.

Weather will also influence planted acreage. While plantings have benefited from generally favorable conditions in most areas of the Cotton Belt, cool weather has caused some delays in the Delta. On the High Plains of Texas, farmers are faced with a critical shortage of subsoil moisture which could adversely affect non-irrigated acreage.

YIELDS COULD DECLINE: The odds are against a repeat of last year's unusually high average yield of 525 pounds per harvested acre. Moisture is badly needed in Texas and Oklahoma. However, the situation is excellent in California and generally adequate elsewhere.

SPRING IRISH POTATOES DOWN

Spring Irish potato production in North Carolina is expected to total 2.0 million cwt. this year. This is 9% less than the 1977 crop but 7% more than the 1976 crop. Expected acreage for harvest at 13,000 is 400 acres below last year. The average yield per acre at 155 cwt. is 10 cwt. less than the average yield of 1977.

U. S. production of spring potatoes is forecast at 19.9 million cwt., which is 13% below the 1977 crop and 20% below the 1976 crop. Prospective acreage for harvest at 90,700 is 700 acres less than last year. Yield per acre is expected to average 219 cwt.. This is below last season's average of 250 cwt..

SPRING IRISH POTATOES -- Acreage, Yield and Production

STATE	AREA HARVESTED			YIELD			PRODUCTION		
	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>			<i>Cwt.</i>			<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>		
Alabama.....	11.5	10.5	10.5	140	120	130	1,610	1,260	1,365
Arizona.....	6.8	6.5	6.0	270	270	265	1,836	1,755	1,590
California....	34.2	30.8	29.0	395	385	325	13,509	11,858	9,425
Florida.....	21.8	21.2	22.4	204	217	186	4,453	4,605	4,161
Louisiana.....	2.6	2.3	2.3	75	75	80	195	173	184
Mississippi...	1.4	1.3	1.2	95	90	85	133	117	102
NORTH CAROLINA	13.0	13.4	13.0	145	165	155	1,885	2,211	2,015
Texas.....	7.1	5.4	6.3	155	165	160	1,101	891	1,008
United States.	98.4	91.4	90.7	251	250	219	24,722	22,870	19,850

PEANUT STOCKS DOWN 7 PERCENT

Peanut stocks held commercially in the U. S. totaled 1,693 million pounds of equivalent farmers' stock on March 31, 1978, 7% below a year earlier. Included in the total were 893 million pounds of actual farmers' stock, 6% below the 951 million a year ago. Shelled peanuts on hand at month's end totaled 760 million pounds of equivalent farmers' stock, off 8% from a year ago. Roasting stock totaled 40 million pounds. There were 122 million pounds of Commodity Credit Corporation uncommitted stock on hand as of March 31, 1978.

Shelled peanut stocks on March 31 totaled nearly 572 million pounds of which 537 million were edible grades and 34 million pounds were oil stocks. Edible grade stocks by types were Virginias, 123 million pounds; Runners, 330 million pounds; and Spanish, 84 million pounds.

March millings totaled nearly 327 million pounds, 4% less than March a

year ago. Millings by types were Virginias, 68 million pounds; Runners, 226 million pounds; and Spanish, 32 million pounds.

Commercial processors utilized 107 million pounds of shelled edible grade peanuts during March in manufacturing primary products, virtually the same as in March 1977. Utilization for both peanut butter and salted peanuts was up 3% while peanut candy was down 12% from a year ago.

Crusings for oil, cake and meal totaled 27 million pounds during March 1978, less than one third the 83 million pounds crushed a year ago.

March deliveries under the Government's Domestic Feeding and Child Nutrition Programs totaled 2,570,543 pounds of peanut butter, 739,200 pounds of peanut granules, and 686,400 pounds of roasted peanuts. There were no deliveries of other peanut products during March.

MORE PEACHES EXPECTED THIS YEAR

Peach poundage in North Carolina is expected to total 44 million pounds this year compared with 35 million pounds during 1977. This is almost a 26% increase from last year.

Peach production in the nine southern states is forecast at 533 mil-

lion pounds, which is 3% above last season's total. The southern states showing a decline in production are Arkansas, Texas and South Carolina. South Carolina, the number 1 peach producing state, is expecting to harvest 220 million pounds, a 20% drop from last season.

ESTIMATED PEACH PRODUCTION BY STATES

STATES	1976		1977		INDICATED MAY 1, 1978	
	Million Pounds	48 Pound Equivalents	Million Pounds	48 Pound Equivalents	Million Pounds	48 Pound Equivalents
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Thousands</i>	
NORTH CAROLINA.	25.0	521	35.0	729	44.0	917
South Carolina.	270.0	5,625	275.0	5,729	220.0	4,583
Georgia.....	200.0	4,167	90.0	1,875	150.0	3,125
Alabama.....	14.0	292	10.0	208	15.0	313
Mississippi....	5.0	104	4.0	83	4.0	83
Arkansas.....	42.0	875	40.0	833	37.0	771
Louisiana.....	7.0	146	6.5	135	7.0	146
Oklahoma.....	8.0	167	10.0	208	11.0	229
Texas.....	17.0	354	48.0	1,000	45.0	938
9 STATES.....	588.0	12,251	518.5	10,800	533.0	11,105

FEED OUTLOOK

If you grow corn or other feed grains, your price outlook has improved considerably in the past few months. The average farm price of corn rose from \$1.60 per bushel last August to around \$2.25 in April. New crop corn futures at Chicago sagged to \$2.20 last December but are now in the \$2.40 to \$2.50 range.

SEVERAL DEVELOPMENTS HAVE HELPED

Farmers have placed a billion bushels of corn under Government price-support loans and nearly 320 million bushels of wheat in the farmer-held grain reserve. USDA announced plans to encourage farmers to put more than 600 million bushels of 1977 corn, sorghum grain, and barley in the grain reserve. In the short time since 1977-crop feed grains became eligible for the reserve,

farmers have entered around 55 million bushels.

USDA announced on March 29 that any excess 1978 crops would be placed in the farmer-held reserve, removed limits on the size of the 1976 and 1977 crop reserve, and waived interest charges on reserve loans after the first year of the 3-year contract.

USDA launched the set-aside and, later, the land diversion program to reduce 1978 plantings of corn, sorghum, and barley.

Export sales picked up. The USSR has been a strong buyer of corn, and the People's Republic of China--not a buyer of U.S. grain since 1974--recently ordered about 37 million bushels of U.S. wheat. With reports of drought in China, there may be added grain buying.

FARMERS FACE HIGHER COSTS IN '78

Farmers who've grown accustomed to rising production costs won't be surprised in 1978.

Costs of producing major U. S. field crops, say USDA economists, are expected to average 6% more than in 1977. Feed grain producers, as a group, will encounter the heftiest increases.

Higher prices for fuel, machinery, and labor will drive up expenses the most. In contrast, fertilizer and chemical prices will probably change very little.

The costs of producing oats and flax, which will show the biggest percentage gains, reflect these varying prices. Both crops use small amounts of chemicals and fertilizer, but sizable shares of other inputs that will bear bigger price tags in 1978.

Below are the expected increases in per acre production costs from 1977 to 1978. The estimates include variable expenses, machinery ownership, and overhead costs, but exclude the costs of land and management...

Crop	Percent
Wheat	+6.1
Corn	+5.2
Sorghum	+7.5
Barley	+6.9
Oats	+8.9
Rice	+6.3
Cotton	+6.4
Soybeans	+2.4
Flax	+8.4
Peanuts	+3.1

Costs per bushel, of course, will depend on yields. End-of-season estimates by the Crop Reporting Board indicate that yields during 1977 ranged higher than in recent years for all major crops except peanuts, barley, and rice.

With production costs expected to climb an average of 6% an acre, yields would have to grow by the same amount to stop a rise in costs per bushel. Given last season's relatively high yields, this is not likely to happen.

Economists projected costs per bushel (and other production units) for 1978 using recent trends as a basis for yield levels and allowing for some variation above and below the yield

estimate.

Assuming, for example, that corn will yield 92 bushels an acre, plus or minus five bushels, or from 87 to 97 bushels an acre, farmers could pay from \$1.45 to \$1.62 to grow a bushel of corn, compared with roughly \$1.50 in 1977.

Wheat, barley, and soybean yields in 1978 are seen near 1977 levels. Since these crops will bear a higher costs per acre, costs per bushel will probably rise as well. For wheat and barley, however, costs could drop somewhat with higher-than-expected yields.

Per acre costs for corn and rice will also turn higher in 1978--by a projected 5 and 6%. However, a bushel of corn or a hundred pounds of rice may cost only 2 to 3% more to produce if bigger yields materialize.

The past crop season saw peanut yields drop way below average. If yields return to more normal levels in 1978, costs per pound could shrink by as much as a fifth.

Yields of cotton, sorghum, oats, and flax, which proved unusually good in 1977, could turn a little lower in 1978. Therefore, with stiffer per acre expenses, unit costs for these crops could advance by as much as 10 to 20%.

WHEAT CROP DOWN

The 1978 winter wheat crop in North Carolina will be harvested from an estimated 175,000 acres. This is below last year's acreage of 200,000 and the 1976 acreage of 240,000. Yield per acre at 32 bushels is 2 bushels above the 1977 yield and 3 bushels above the average yield for 1976. Expected production of 5.6 million bushels is 7% less than last season.

Winter wheat production in the U. S. is forecast at 1,284 million bushels based on May 1 conditions. This is 16% below the 1977 production estimate. Yield per acre at 32.5 bushels is up 1 bushel from a year earlier. However, acreage for the U. S. at 39,558,000 is down sharply (18%) from the 1977 season.

OILSEED OUTLOOK

The unusual "large supply-high price" situation we're seeing in the soybean market right now is due to exceptionally strong demand. For those of you with old crop beans left to sell, it suggests pretty favorable prices through the end of the marketing year.

Usually, big soybean stocks (843 million bushels on April 1) and intentions for an 8-percent increase in spring plantings would indicate a price level well below the recent \$7 a bushel beans were going for at Chicago. But demand should stay strong, at least until new crop beans start coming in next fall. Mainly, it's because we're the only country with large supplies of soybeans and soybean products available for export. Then too, good livestock markets are keeping domestic use strong.

Brazil, the world's second largest producer/exporter of soybeans, is hurting from drought. Its 1978 crop is down to only 355 to 375 million bushels, compared with 448 million bushels last year. Supplies of Indian peanuts and USSR sunflowerseeds also are smaller than expected. And the dollar's decline

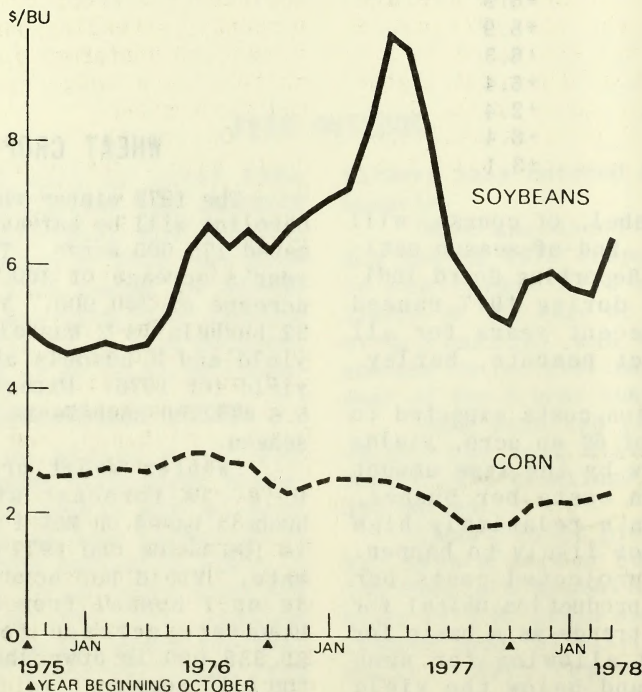
in value relative to European and Japanese currencies has helped boost the demand for U.S. soybeans. Accordingly, U.S. processing mills are turning out record volumes of soybean oil and meal.

Farm prices for soybeans have advanced from last fall's low of \$5.25 per bushel to \$6.74 in April. Generally, prices peak in the spring, but timing of the top dollar this year may depend on the outcome of the 1978 Brazilian harvest now nearing completion and crop developments in other countries.

Prices have stayed strong, thanks also to record U.S. feed use of soybean meal for poultry, cattle, and hogs. Sharp advances in livestock prices have boosted the demand. In addition, demand for soybean meal by Western Europe and Japan has increased. Prices of soybean meal (44-percent protein) at Decatur rose from \$135 a short ton last October to \$170 in late April.

The U.S. food industry has also shown strong demand for soybean oil and exports may be near record--with large shipments to India and Pakistan.

SOYBEAN AND CORN PRICES (CHICAGO)



APPLES: U. S. Market Outlook

Reflecting the larger crop and higher grower prices, shipments of apples to fresh market through mid-January were running slightly ahead of last year's pace with most of the increases occurring in the Eastern States. Shipments from Washington, where most of the apples are for fresh use, were about 5 percent smaller through January.

Larger shipments from the Eastern States have been reflected in slightly lower f.o.b. shipping point prices in the East, particularly for the predominant Eastern varieties, McIntosh and Jonathan. However, f.o.b. prices for Red and Golden Delicious apples, the predominant Western varieties, have been substantially above a year ago. In February, the U. S. average price received by growers for fresh use was 13.6 cents per pound, 27 percent higher than in 1977.

These higher prices have been reflected at the retail level since last fall. The U. S. average retail prices in January 1978 reached a high of 39.1 cents per pound, compared with 35.5 cents per pound in 1977 and 28.2 cents the previous year.

With remaining supplies of apples smaller, both grower and retail prices are expected to remain higher than a year ago. The U. S. season average price to growers for the 1977 apple crop for all uses was estimated at 9.3 cents per pound, about 6 percent higher than in 1976. Total value of the U. S. utilized commercial crop is estimated at \$621 million, compared with \$566 million in 1976.

FARMLAND CLIMBS AT SLOWER PACE

Buying farmland meant paying more again in 1977. But the upward spiral slowed, as prices cooled to an 11-percent advance for the year ending November 1977, compared with 17 percent the previous year. Preliminary estimates out the average price of agricultural land at \$474 an acre, up from \$428 in November 1976.

As of last October, prices had begun slipping for some of the costliest farmland in the North Central region. Nebraska, however, was the only State to register a decrease from February, with a 2-percent drop to \$392.

Keeping the lid on runaway prices were the wait-and-see attitude adopted by prospective buyers and the increasingly cautious stance taken by lenders as farmers' cash flow positions worsened.

Low crop prices, caused by large world supplies, and escalating input costs created the tight cash situation. This proved particularly troublesome for producers who had financed large investments by mortgaging their assets.

Farm real estate market reporters cited low commodity prices as the prime factor affecting the land market. Traditionally, farm enlargement had been chief influence.

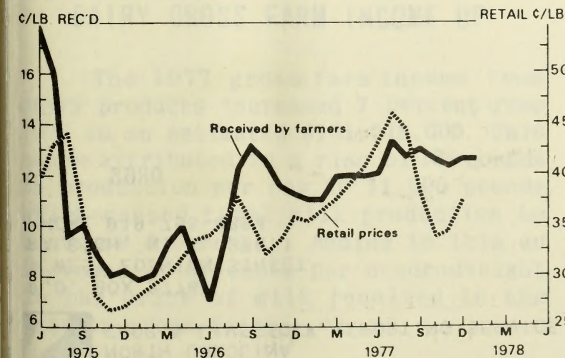
Other forces named by reporters included livestock prices (cited by 13 percent), spreading population centers, farmer and nonfarmer investment in agriculture as a hedge against inflation, and the weather.

On the whole, agricultural land costs have rocketed during the 1970's. Back in March 1971, an acre of U.S. farmland averaged what now seems a low \$204.

States showing the largest increases during 1977 were centered in the upper Ohio Valley and Great Lakes region. Land values jumped 20 percent and more in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Kentucky. Buyers in South Dakota, Michigan, and Ohio found land prices at least 17 percent higher than a year earlier.

As usual, purchasers paid the most for farmland in the Northeast and Corn Belt, where prices ranged over \$1,000 an acre. New Jersey continued to lead all States with a per acre value of \$2,025, while farmland in Illinois carried an average value of \$1,508, the highest in the Corn Belt.

U.S. APPLE PRICES*



SEASON BEGINNING JUNE 1

MORE HAY STOCKS

Hay stocks on North Carolina farms total 57,000 tons as of May 1, 1978. This compares with 46,000 tons last May and 82,000 tons on May 1, 1976.

Nationally, hay stocks on farms as of May 1 are estimated at 24 million tons, up 23% from a year ago but 6% below May 1, 1976.

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RECENT FARM PRICE STRENGTH

LED BY CROPS

Farm prices continue to rise. By April prices received by farmers had increased almost a fifth from last fall's seasonal low. While prices of livestock and products, especially cattle and hogs, rose sharply early this year, increases in recent weeks have been primarily among crop products.

Prices farmers received for crops rose around 8 percent in the past 2 months, although overall crop prices are still around 4 to 5 percent below year-ago levels.

Wheat prices at Kansas City hit almost \$3.50 a bushel in mid-April, highest since July 1976, and almost a dollar above a year ago, although prices have eased back some since. Corn prices have risen in recent weeks to near year-ago levels. Soybean prices have also generally picked up, but prices are still well below year-ago levels.

This price strength was mainly due to strong foreign demand and heavy movement of grain into the loan and farmer-held reserves. Soybean prices have risen in the face of record domestic sup-

(See Price Strength, Page 6)

DAIRY GROSS FARM INCOME UP

The 1977 gross farm income from dairy products increased 7 percent from 1976 to an estimated \$181,078,000. This can be attributed to a rise of 184 pounds in production per cow to 11,000 pounds, which caused total milk production to increase 4 percent. Adding to this an increase of 30 cents per hundredweight in the price of milk resulted in the rise in gross income.

(See Table, Page 7)

MAY PRICE INDEX HIGHER

The 'All Farm Products' index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets during May is 194 (1967 = 100), an increase of 3 points from April 1978 and 9 points from May 1977.

The May 'All Crops' index of 190 was 2 points above April. Commercial vegetables showed the largest increase of 18 points. Grains, at 198, were up 5 points from April 1978. Oil bearing crops were above last month by 4 points but were below May 1977 by 53 points.

The 'Livestock and Livestock Products' index rose 5 points from April to 200. Meat animals jumped 15 points to 237 while poultry and dairy were unchanged at 189 and 173 respectively.

(See Table, Page 2)

RECOVERY IN MILK OUTPUT EXPECTED

Milk production in March and April was just barely below a year ago, ending the record-long expansion of 29 straight months. Output in the first 4 months of 1978 totaled virtually the same as a year earlier.

Unfavorable weather was a factor in the weaker-than-expected output in early 1978. Harsh winter weather in parts of the Midwest probably resulted in reduced output per cow and increased involuntary culling. In California, unusually heavy rains and the resulting muddy lots reduced output per cow. Although some of these effects will linger, the impact of these conditions should diminish in coming months.

Milk cow numbers in April were more than 1 percent below a year earlier,

(See Milk Output, Page 5)

U. S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 7 POINTS PRICES PAID INDEX UP 3 POINTS

The May Index of Prices Received by U. S. Farmers increased 7 points (3 percent) to 215 percent of its January-December 1967 average. Contributing most to the increase since April were higher prices for cattle, hogs, soybeans and apples. Lower prices for eggs, tomatoes and onions were partially offsetting. The index was 22 points (11 percent)

above a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates for May 15 was 219, up 3 points (1½ percent) from mid-April. Higher feeder livestock prices were the major contributor to the index rise. The index was 15 points (7 percent) higher than a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	May 15 1975	May 15 1976	May 15 1977	April 15 1978	May 15 1978
NORTH CAROLINA					
Prices Received: All Farm Products...	<u>3/</u> 172	<u>3/</u> 171	<u>3/</u> 185	191	194
All Crops.....	<u>3/</u> 170	<u>3/</u> 163	188	188	190
Tobacco.....	<u>3/</u> 161	152	169	178	178
Cotton.....	<u>3/</u> 160	242	-	-	-
Oil Bearing.....	186	180	<u>3/</u> 285	<u>3/</u> 228	232
Grains.....	204	200	<u>3/</u> 172	193	198
Commercial Vegetables.....	<u>3/</u> 176	<u>3/</u> 178	<u>3/</u> 187	197	215
Fruits.....	<u>3/</u> 211	<u>3/</u> 148	227	205	205
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	176	186	180	<u>3/</u> 195	200
Meat Animals.....	194	221	185	222	237
Poultry.....	172	177	183	189	189
Dairy.....	<u>3/</u> 159	<u>3/</u> 162	<u>3/</u> 167	<u>3/</u> 173	173
UNITED STATES					
Prices Received, All Farm Products....	<u>3/</u> 183	<u>3/</u> 191	<u>3/</u> 193	208	215
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services <u>1/</u>	<u>3/</u> 180	<u>3/</u> 191	204	216	219
Parity Ratio <u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 102	<u>3/</u> 100	<u>3/</u> 95	96	98

1/ Including Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. 3/ Revised.

CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND FEED PRICES MOSTLY HIGHER

Prices received for crops by Tar Heel farmers at local markets about Mid-May were up. (See Table, Page 3.) Soybeans rose to \$7.22 per bushel from \$7.03 a month earlier. Corn, at \$2.72, increased eight cents per bushel. Oats dropped 12 cents per bushel to \$1.69.

Prices received for livestock were higher. Hogs at \$46.80 per hundredweight increased \$2.30 from April. Beef cattle rose \$3.40 to \$42.20 while veal calves increased \$7.10 to \$58.30 per hundredweight. Milk cows were up \$30.00

to \$375.00 per head.

Feed prices paid by North Carolina farmers during May were mostly higher. (See Table, Page 3.) Mixed dairy feed with 20 percent protein was up \$3.00 per ton to \$151.00. Chick starter rose \$4.00 per ton to \$182.00 and broiler grower increased \$7.00 to \$178.00 per ton. Bran, at \$7.90 per hundredweight, was up 20 cents. Soybean meal (44 percent protein) remained at \$12.50 per hundredweight.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		May 15 1977	Apr. 15 1978	May 15 1978*	May 15 1977	Apr. 15 1978	May 15 1978*
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	-	-	-	1.095	1.184	1.130
Corn.....	Bu.	<u>2/</u> 2.45	<u>2/</u> 2.64	2.72	2.25	<u>2/</u> 2.24	2.28
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.19	<u>2/</u> 2.82	2.80
Oats.....	Bu.	<u>2/</u> 1.31	<u>2/</u> 1.81	1.69	1.52	<u>2/</u> 1.18	1.21
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.12	<u>2/</u> 1.93	2.04
Sorghum Grains..	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.20	<u>2/</u> 3.62	3.59
Soybeans.....	Bu.	<u>2/</u> 9.73	<u>2/</u> 7.03	7.22	9.24	<u>2/</u> 6.49	6.82
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.668	<u>2/</u> .517	.532
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.719	.737	.786
Hogs.....	Cwt.	38.30	44.50	46.80	40.70	44.80	47.80
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt.	29.90	38.80	42.20	36.30	47.30	50.30
Veal Calves.....	Cwt.	39.20	51.20	58.30	38.40	52.90	58.30
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	330.00	345.00	375.00	500.00	579.00	601.00
Com'l. Broilers..	Lb.	.250	.265	.265	.241	.281	.272
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.350	.380	.400	.336	.379	.396
Eggs <u>1/</u>	Doz.	.619	.608	.598	.492	.522	.493
Milk, Whlse.....	Cwt.	10.70	<u>2/</u> 11.10	11.10	9.37	10.10	10.00
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	-	-	-	4.40	3.39	3.97
Sweet Potatoes..	Cwt.	9.50	10.65	12.60	10.90	12.90	14.20
Apples, Com'l...	Lb.	-	-	-	.117	.152	.201
Hay, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	68.10	51.40	55.30
Alfalfa Hay....	Ton	-	-	-	73.80	53.40	58.10
Other.....	Ton	-	-	-	52.40	46.70	47.20

1/ Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers.

2/ Revised.

* Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	May 15 1977	Apr. 15 1978	May 15 1978	May 15 1977	Apr. 15 1978	May 15 1978
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed						
14% Protein.....	149.00	-	-	144.00	129.00	130.00
16% Protein.....	157.00	145.00	144.00	152.00	137.00	136.00
18% Protein.....	-	146.00	147.00	-	149.00	147.00
20% Protein.....	-	148.00	151.00	-	151.00	148.00
32% Protein.....	225.00	190.00	195.00	238.00	203.00	203.00
Poultry Feeds						
Chick Starter.....	194.00	178.00	182.00	191.00	175.00	175.00
Broiler Grower.....	190.00	171.00	178.00	187.00	169.00	171.00
Laying Feed <u>1/</u>	172.00	156.00	158.00	166.00	154.00	155.00
Turkey Grower <u>1/</u>	198.00	190.00	192.00	200.00	183.00	184.00
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products						
Brn.....	7.70	7.70	7.90	7.89	7.45	7.34
Middlings.....	7.30	7.20	7.20	7.75	7.44	7.29
Corn Meal.....	6.30	6.40	6.50	6.14	5.98	6.00
High Protein Feeds						
Cottonseed Meal 41%.	13.50	12.00	12.00	12.50	10.60	10.50
Soybean Meal 44%....	16.50	12.50	12.50	16.00	11.90	11.80

1/ Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

INCREASE IN CHICKS HATCHED

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 33.9 million broiler-type chicks and 1.2 million egg-type chicks during April 1978. This is an increase of 1 percent for broiler-type and 5 percent for egg-type chicks from a year earlier.

For the Nation, the April hatch of

broiler-type chicks, at 337.9 million, was 4 percent more than April 1977. Egg-type chicks hatched totaled 51.4 million, a decrease of 7 percent from a year earlier. The number of eggs in incubators on May 1, 1978 for the South Atlantic States increased 8 percent for broiler-type and 3 percent for egg-type.

CHICKS HATCHED -- APRIL

STATE	BROILER-TYPE			EGG-TYPE		
	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>
North Carolina	33,531	33,857	101	1,140	1,200	105
South Carolina	3,327	3,470	104	1,106	879	79
Georgia	45,924	48,766	106	6,087	5,644	93
Florida	7,919	8,346	105	3,926	3,986	102
Delaware	15,101	15,917	105	//	//	-
Maryland	18,114	19,228	106	//	//	-
Virginia	9,170	9,521	104	608	759	125
UNITED STATES	324,642	337,876	104	55,133	51,401	93

// Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

U. S. TURKEY HATCH DOWN 2 PERCENT

The U. S. hatch of 19.1 million turkey poults during April was 2 percent below a year ago. The hatch of heavy breeds was up 1 percent from April 1977 but the light breed poults hatch was down 47 percent.

The 27.7 million turkey eggs in incubators on May 1, 1978 were virtually unchanged from a year earlier. Eggs set for heavy breed turkeys were up 3 percent from last year but light breeds were down 42 percent.

POULTS HATCHED -- APRIL

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	HEAVY BREEDS 1/		LIGHT BREEDS 2/		ALL BREEDS		
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>				<i>Percent</i>		
North Atlantic	368	370	91	3	459	373	81
East North Central	2,365	2,520	73	0	2,438	2,520	103
West North Central	6,620	6,597	704	460	7,324	7,057	96
South Atlantic	2,817	3,236	325	235	3,142	3,471	110
South Central	2,227	2,022	0	0	2,227	2,022	91
West	3,745	3,666	126	5	3,871	3,671	95
UNITED STATES	18,142	18,411	1,319	703	19,461	19,114	98

1/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is 12 pounds or over.

2/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is under 12 pounds.

APRIL EGG PRODUCTION HIGHER

Egg production on North Carolina farms during April 1978 is estimated at 280 million, a rise of 20 percent from April a year earlier. The number of layers on hand during the month was 13.9 million compared to 11.5 million during April 1977. Eggs laid per 100 layers, at 2,025, are down slightly from the

same period a year ago.

Laying flocks in the United States produced 5,513 million eggs during April, a 3 percent increase from April a year ago. Layers on hand during the month averaged 276,639,000, up 2 percent from April 1977. The average rate of lay increased 1 percent

LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- APRIL

STATE	LAYERS ON HAND		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		TOTAL EGGS PRODUCED	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
North Carolina	11,500	13,850	2,028	2,025	233	280
Virginia	3,335	3,731	1,950	1,944	65	73
South Carolina	4,970	5,505	2,079	2,115	103	116
Georgia	23,150	24,140	1,977	1,950	458	471
Florida	12,409	12,133	1,986	2,025	246	246
UNITED STATES	271,487	276,639	1,971	1,993	5,351	5,513

MILK OUTPUT (Continued From Page 1)

with most of the decline coming since last fall. The year-to-year decline was about double the very slow rate of early last year. Slaughter cow prices have run well above a year ago and off-farm employment opportunities have generally improved. However, the continued large number of replacement dairy heifers has helped to limit declines in milk cow numbers.

Milk production per cow was up less than 1 percent from April 1977, even though dairymen reported feeding 4 percent more grain and other concentrates on April 1 than a year ago. In addition to the weather impacts, hay quality was generally lower than a year ago and dairymen may not have fully compensated by feeding more high-protein concentrates.

The outlook for milk production in coming months is a mix of both potential strengths and weaknesses. Milk-feed price relationships are expected to remain favorable and the recent weather impacts will be wearing off. On the other hand, pressures for increased culling are building.

Farmers are assured of milk prices running well above a year ago throughout 1978 by the recent semiannual adjustment to the support price and the minimum of 80 percent of parity at the start of the new marketing year on October 1. Feed prices probably will stay moderate unless grain crops here and abroad are cut by unfavorable weather. The resulting favorable milk-feed price relationships probably will encourage heavy feeding of grain and other concentrates and increases in output per cow.

Utility cow prices at Omaha were quoted at about \$38 per 100 pounds in early May, up about \$10 from both early winter and a year earlier. These slaughter cow prices probably will remain in the mid-\$30's or higher during the rest of the year, reflecting smaller beef supplies. In addition, off-farm employment opportunities generally have improved considerably. The combination of these two factors likely will mean that this year's declines in milk cow numbers will be somewhat more pronounced

(See Milk Output, Page 8)

APRIL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER DROPS

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during April 1978 totaled 45.5 million pounds live weight, a drop of 10 percent from April 1977. The number of head slaughtered decreased 8 percent to 167,600.

Cattle slaughtered were down 16 percent to 11.1 million pounds live weight. Calf slaughter declined 16 percent to 112,000 pounds live weight. Hog kill, at 34.3 million pounds live weight, decreased 8 percent. There were 8,000 pounds of sheep and lambs killed during

the month.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in April 1978 totaled 3.1 billion pounds, down 4 percent from April 1977. January-April total red meat output at 12.7 billion pounds was 3 percent below last year...change by individual components: beef, down 3 percent; veal, down 12; pork, down 2; lamb and mutton, down 18. Commercial meat production includes slaughter in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER ^{1/}

SPECIES	APRIL				JANUARY THROUGH APRIL			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
NORTH CAROLINA								
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	15.0	12.6	13,225	11,090	64.9	57.3	57,577	50,388
Calves	.6	.4	134	112	2.7	2.1	597	542
Sheep & Lambs								
Hogs	167.1	154.5	37,330	34,289	648.6	645.1	143,862	142,507
TOTAL	182.7	167.6	50,689	45,499	716.3	704.8	202,049	193,460
UNITED STATES								
	<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	3.3	3.2	3,382	3,263	13.7	13.4	14,217	13,775
Calves	.4	.4	104	85	1.9	1.6	453	388
Sheep & Lambs								
Hogs	.6	.5	63	50	2.1	1.8	242	200
TOTAL	6.7	6.5	1,569	1,533	26.4	25.9	6,185	6,078
TOTAL	11.0	10.6	5,118	4,931	44.1	42.7	21,097	20,441

^{1/} Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

PRICE STRENGTH (Continued from Page 1)

plies largely because of the reduced Brazilian soybean crop.

Barrow and gilt prices have eased some in recent weeks, although at around \$46 per cwt. at Omaha in late April, they were still about a fourth above a year ago. Hog prices are likely to hold fairly stable in coming weeks before showing some seasonal strength this summer.

On the other hand, cattle prices have risen substantially in recent weeks reaching \$53 per cwt. for choice steers at Omaha in late April, almost a third above last year at that time. Increased demand from feedlots has boosted yearling feeder cattle prices to about \$56 per cwt. by late April, highest since September 1973.

MILK: Production, Disposition and Income, 1976-77, North Carolina

ITEMS	UNIT	1976 Revised	1977 Preliminary
FARM PRODUCTION OF MILK AND MILKFAT:			
Milk produced per milk cow <u>1</u> /.....	Lbs.	10,816	11,000
Butterfat produced per milk cow.....	Lbs.	400	404
Percentage of fat in milk.....	%	3.70	3.67
Total milk produced on farms <u>1</u> /.....	Lbs.	1,590,000,000	1,661,000,000
Total milkfat produced on farms.....	Lbs.	59,000,000	61,000,000
MILK USED ON FARMS WHERE PRODUCED:			
Fed to calves <u>1</u> /.....	Lbs.	10,000,000	10,000,000
Used for milk, cream and butter.....	Lbs.	65,000,000	61,000,000
Total used on farms.....	Lbs.	75,000,000	71,000,000
MILK MARKETED BY FARMERS:			
Sold to plants and dealers as whole milk <u>2</u> /.	Lbs.	1,495,000,000	1,570,000,000
Sold directly to consumers <u>3</u> /.....	Lbs.	20,000,000	20,000,000
Total Sold.....	Lbs.	1,515,000,000	1,590,000,000
MILK SOLD BY FARMERS TO PLANTS AND DEALERS:			
Quantity.....	Lbs.	1,495,000,000	1,570,000,000
Price per 100 pounds.....	Dols.	10.60	10.90
Cash receipts from sales to plants & dealers	Dols.	158,470,000	171,130,000
MILK SOLD BY FARMERS DIRECTLY TO CONSUMERS:			
Quantity.....	Qts.	9,302,000	9,302,000
Price per quart.....	Cts.	37.0	35.0
Cash receipts from direct sales.....	Dols.	3,442,000	3,256,000
RETURNS FROM COMBINED MARKETINGS OF MILK AND CREAM:			
Average per 100 pounds milk <u>4</u> /.....	Dols.	10.69	10.97
Average per pound butterfat <u>4</u> /.....	Dols.	2.89	2.99
Total cash receipts from marketings.....	Dols.	161,912,000	174,386,000
VALUE OF MILK, CREAM AND BUTTER USED ON FARMS WHERE PRODUCED: <u>5</u>/.....			
	Dols.	6,949,000	6,692,000
GROSS FARM INCOME FROM DAIRY PRODUCTS: <u>6</u>/.....	Dols.	168,861,000	181,078,000
FARM VALUE OF MILK PRODUCED: <u>5</u>/ <u>7</u>/.....	Dols.	169,971,000	182,212,000

1/ Excludes milk sucked by calves. 2/ Includes milk produced by dealer's own herds.
3/ Sales directly to consumers by producers who sell only milk from their own herds.
Also includes milk produced by institutional herds. 4/ Cash receipts divided by
milk or milkfat represented in combined marketings. 5/ Valued at average returns
per 100 pounds of milk in combined marketings of milk and cream. 6/ Cash receipts
from marketings of milk and cream plus value of milk used for home consumption and
farm-churned butter. 7/ Includes value of milk fed to calves.

MILK OUTPUT *(Continued From Page 5)*

than a year ago, although the continued large number of replacement heifers will soften the impact of these forces.

Lower soybean meal prices have kept dairy ration prices below a year earlier in recent months. Although feed prices have risen from last fall's low levels, the ample 1977 harvests have held feed prices to moderate levels. In early May, No. 2 Chicago corn was quoted at about \$2.50-\$2.60 per bushel (about the same as a year ago), while soybean meal at Decatur was selling for about \$175 per ton (down about \$100 from last year).

Farmers paid an average \$137 per ton for 16-percent dairy ration in April,

down about \$11 from last year but up \$12 from October. The average price paid for alfalfa hay in April was about \$69 per ton, down sharply from the record \$81 a year ago.

Feed prices probably will remain moderate during the rest of 1978, unless weather is unfavorable here and abroad. Stocks of both corn and soybeans at the end of the current feed year are expected to be well above a year earlier and will tend to buffer the price impacts of weather developments. Even with recent government policy actions to encourage less acreage, the potential for another large harvest is substantial.

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Semi-Monthly

MAY RAINS DELAY SPRING PLANTINGS

The notable element of May weather was below normal temperatures and excessive rainfall during the first half of the month. These abnormal conditions for early May lead to a delay in spring plantings. Progress was held up 10 days to two weeks behind normal schedule due to surplus soil moisture conditions. Replantings in many low lying areas were a result of wet, cool weather which also delayed seed germination and general plant growth.

The days suitable for field work averaged 3.2 per week for May. Cultivation was brought to a virtual standstill because of the persistent rains. About an average of 10 inches of rain soaked North Carolina in the first half of May. As of May 20, cotton was about 11 days behind normal planting schedule, transplanting of flue-cured tobacco was running two weeks behind, peanuts were 19 days, soybeans 12 days and sweet potatoes about 10 days short of average.

Rain broke about mid-month and sunny dry weather prevailed during the last week of May.

Respondents reported corn, flue-cured tobacco and peanuts plantings practically complete as of June 3. Soybeans were rated 47% complete, compared with 77% in 1977 and the (1973-77) five-year average of 68%. Sorghum plantings picked up to 50% which is far short of 1977's 72% complete and the average of 62%. Sweet potato transplantings were 56% complete as of June 3, behind last year's 71% for this date and the average of 64%. Burley tobacco fell far behind schedule with only 27% of the expected acreage transplanted compared with 73% last year and the average of 65%. The hay crop in North Carolina was about 37% harvested, slightly behind the 40% in 1977 for June 3, but exceeding the five-year average of 27%. Small grains, peaches, and Irish potato harvest is just getting underway.

WHEAT PRODUCTION

Winter wheat production in North Carolina is forecast at 5,950,000 bushels as of June 1, up 6 percent from the May 1 forecast but down 1 percent from 1976. The estimated acres for harvest was down 13 percent from a month earlier but the yield forecast increased 4 bushels to 34 bushels per acre. The decline in production from 1977 is due to a decrease in acres for harvest from 200,000 to 175,000 this year. The yield per acre is up 4 bushels from last year.

Production of winter wheat for the U. S. is forecast at 1.31 billion bushels based on June 1 conditions, 14 percent below a year ago but 2 percent above last month. The production decline from last year can be attributed largely to 18 percent fewer acres to be harvested for grain. Nationally, the crop is expected to yield 33.1 bushels per harvested acre compared with 31.5 bushels per acre last year. The winter wheat crop on June 1 was rated good to excellent in most areas.

N. C. PEACH PRODUCTION UP

North Carolina's peach production forecast for the 1978 crop is unchanged from the May 1 forecast of 44,000,000 pounds. This month's production forecast is up 26 percent from last year's crop. The forecast is also 76 percent higher than the 1976 crop, which suffered from several freezes during critical stages of the growing season.

For the nine southern states, the production forecast is up 1 percent

from the May 1 forecast. Improved prospects in Arkansas and South Carolina more than offset a decline in Georgia. Production for the nine southern states is expected to total 539 million pounds, up 4 percent from 1977 but down 8 percent from 1976.

Peach production in the U. S. is forecast at 2.73 billion pounds, down 9 percent from last season and 10 percent below the 1976 total.

ESTIMATED PEACH PRODUCTION, BY STATES

STATE	1976		1977		Indicated June 1, 1978	
	Million Pounds	48 Pound Equivalents	Million Pounds	48 Pound Equivalents	Million Pounds	48 Pound Equivalents
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Thousands</i>	
NORTH CAROLINA.	25.0	521	35.0	729	44.0	917
South Carolina.	270.0	5,625	275.0	5,729	230.0	4,792
Georgia.....	200.0	4,167	90.0	1,875	145.0	3,021
Alabama.....	14.0	292	10.0	208	15.0	313
Mississippi....	5.0	104	4.0	83	4.0	83
Arkansas.....	42.0	875	40.0	833	38.0	792
Louisiana.....	7.0	146	6.5	135	7.0	146
Oklahoma.....	8.0	167	10.0	208	11.0	229
Texas.....	17.0	354	48.0	1,000	45.0	938
9 STATES.....	588.0	12,251	518.5	10,800	539.0	11,231

SPRING IRISH POTATOES: Acres, Yield and Production

STATE	Acres Harvested			Yield Per Acre			Production		
	1976	1977	Indicated June 1, 1978	1976	1977	Indicated June 1, 1978	1976	1977	Indicated June 1, 1978
	<i>Thousands</i>			<i>Hundredweight</i>			<i>Thousand Hundredweight</i>		
NORTH CAROLINA.	13.0	13.4	13.0	145	165	145	1,885	2,211	1,885
Alabama.....	11.5	10.5	10.5	140	120	130	1,610	1,260	1,365
Arizona.....	6.8	6.5	6.0	270	270	265	1,836	1,755	1,590
California.....	34.2	30.8	29.0	395	385	280	13,509	11,858	8,120
Fla.-Hastings..	19.3	19.5	20.5	210	220	175	4,053	4,290	3,588
Other.....	2.5	1.7	1.9	160	185	150	400	315	285
Louisiana.....	2.6	2.3	2.3	75	75	75	195	173	173
Mississippi....	1.4	1.3	1.2	95	90	90	133	117	108
Texas.....	7.1	5.4	6.3	155	165	145	1,101	891	914
TOTAL.....	98.4	91.4	90.7	251	250	199	24,722	22,870	18,028

IRISH POTATOES DROP

Spring Irish potato production is forecast at 1,885 thousand cwt. this year in North Carolina. The estimate of 13,000 acres for harvest was unchanged from May 1. However, the forecast of yield per acre dropped from 155 cwt. to 145 cwt. Due to the decline in yield since May 1, the production forecast is 15 percent below 1977 and even with 1976 production.

The final forecast for the 1978 U. S. spring potato crop is placed at 18.0 million cwt., 9 percent below last month's forecast and 21 percent less than the 22.9 million cwt. produced during 1977. The 1978 spring production is the lowest on record since seasonal estimates were started in 1949. (See table page 2)

N. C. NUMBER ONE IN YAMS

North Carolina continued to be the top producer of sweet potatoes in 1977. An estimated 4.5 million cwt. was harvested from 33,000 acres. This is about one-third of the entire U. S. production. Production in North Caro-

was up 4 percent from 1976 due to the increase in yields during 1977. The average yield per acre for the State in 1977, at 135, was up 5 cwt. from 1976 and was well above the National average of 110.

SWEET POTATOES: Acreage, Yield and Production, 1976-77*

STATE	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	<i>Thousand Acres</i>		<i>Thousand Acres</i>		<i>Cwt.</i>		<i>Thousand Cwt.</i>	
N. C.	35.0	34.0	33.0	33.0	130	135	4,290	4,455
Ala.	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.3	90	85	495	451
Ark.	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.6	78	76	117	122
Calif.	7.6	7.8	7.6	7.8	155	150	1,178	1,170
Ga.	6.3	6.3	5.9	5.5	120	90	708	495
La.	30.0	28.0	29.0	27.0	95	90	2,755	2,430
Md.	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	155	155	248	248
Miss.	9.5	9.0	9.0	8.0	90	85	810	680
N. J.	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.4	115	105	265	252
S. C.	2.5	2.3	2.5	2.3	86	91	215	209
Tenn.	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.8	105	100	305	280
Texas	11.0	10.0	10.5	9.5	105	95	1,103	903
Va.	7.0	5.9	6.5	5.6	145	125	943	700
U. S.	122.8	117.3	117.8	112.4	114	110	13,432	12,395

* 1977 revised.

N. C. MILK PRODUCTION DOWN IN MAY

Milk production in North Carolina during May 1978 is estimated at 136 million pounds, a decrease of 3 percent from a year earlier. The average milk production per cow, at 945 pounds, represents an increase of 5 pounds over May a year earlier. Milk cows on farms during the month, including dry cows, totaled 144,000 head.

May 1978 milk production totaled 11.2 billion pounds in the U. S., down 1 percent from May 1978. Average production per cow was 1,032 pounds, 3 pounds less than a year earlier, but 26 pounds more than May 1976. Milk cows were estimated at 10.9 million head during May, off 1 percent from last year. (See table back page)

MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION--MAY 1978

STATE	Milk Cows On Farms <i>//</i>	Milk Per Cow	Milk Production	
			Pounds	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Millions</i>	<i>Percent</i>
NORTH CAROLINA.	144	945	136	97
Virginia.....	173	970	168	99
Maryland.....	134	1,065	143	98
Georgia.....	129	830	107	98
Florida.....	196	930	182	101
UNITED STATES..	10,866	1,032	11,219	99

// Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

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SOYBEAN ACREAGE RECORD HIGH; CORN AND COTTON DOWN SHARPLY

Farmers in North Carolina planted many more acres of soybeans in 1978 but fewer acres of corn and cotton. These findings, according to the North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, were based on reports from a sample of growers in a survey conducted around June 1. (For detailed data on planted and harvested acres in North Carolina and the United States, see table on page 7.)

Soybeans intended for harvest for beans are estimated at 1,600,000 acres, 21% more than harvested last season and 10% more than the previous record high in 1973.

Tar Heel farmers planted 1,720,000 acres of corn, down 12% from 1977 and the lowest since 1974.

Results showed flue-cured tobacco increasing to 390,000 acres, 2% more than 1977. Flue-cured acreages by types are: Type 11 (Old and Middle Belts) 155,000 acres, down 3% from 1977; Type 12 (Eastern Belt) 186,000 acres, up 5%; Type 13 (Border Belt) 49,000 acres, up 7% from a year earlier. Burley tobacco growers expect to harvest 8,500 acres, down 11% from last season.

Cotton acreage planted at 50,000 acres is down 43% from last year and a record low.

MAY EGG PRODUCTION HIGHER

Egg production on North Carolina farms during May 1978 is estimated at 288 million, a rise of 20 percent from May a year earlier. The number of layers on hand during the month was 13.7 million compared to 11.6 million during May 1977. Eggs laid per 100 layers, at 2,108, are up slightly from the same period a year ago.

JUNE PRICE INDEX RISES

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets during June is 197 (1967 = 100), an increase of 3 points from May and 11 points above June 1977.

The "All Crops" index, at 193 is up 2 points above May 1978 and 5 points higher than June 1977. Fruit was up 60 points and commercial vegetables were up 16 points above the previous month while there was no change in tobacco.

The "Livestock and Livestock Products" index is up 4 points. Poultry increased 9 points, meat animals increased 3 points and dairy decreased 3 points.

(See Table, Page 2)

N. C. HOG NUMBER UP

The State's inventory of all hogs and pigs on hand June 1, 1978 showed a gain of 6 percent from a year earlier according to a recent survey conducted by the North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. The total inventory at 2,035,000 head, was made up of 326,000 head kept for breeding purposes and 1,709,000 head of market hogs. These classes were up 3 and 7 percent respectively from the previous year. The Tar Heel State ranked seventh in hog numbers nationally as of mid-year.

North Carolina producers intend to farrow 125,000 sows during the next 3 months--June through August--2 percent more than during the same period a year ago. September-November 1978 farrowings are expected to total 106,000, 6 percent above the same period last year.

(See Hog Numbers, Page 4)

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 3 POINTS PRICES PAID INDEX UP 1 POINT

The June Index of Prices Received by Farmers increased 3 points (1½ percent) to 218 percent of its January-December 1967 average. Contributing most to the increase since May were higher prices for cattle, apples, broilers and potatoes. Lower prices for eggs and soybeans were partially offsetting. The index was 34 points (18 percent) above a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates for June 15 was 220, up 1 point (½ percent) from mid-May. Indexes for both production and family living were up from a month earlier. Feeder livestock was the only index showing a decline. The June 1978 index was 16 points (8 percent) higher than a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	June 15 1975	June 15 1976	June 15 1977	May 15 1978	June 15 1978
NORTH CAROLINA					
Prices Received: All Farm Products....	<u>3/</u> 174	<u>3/</u> 175	<u>3/</u> 186	194	197
All Crops.....	<u>3/</u> 171	168	<u>3/</u> 188	<u>3/</u> 191	193
Tobacco.....	<u>3/</u> 161	152	<u>3/</u> 169	<u>3/</u> 178	178
Cotton.....	<u>3/</u> 164	242	-	-	-
Oil Bearing.....	<u>3/</u> 182	203	<u>3/</u> 285	<u>3/</u> 231	227
Grains.....	202	211	<u>3/</u> 175	<u>3/</u> 200	208
Commercial Vegetables.....	<u>3/</u> 208	<u>3/</u> 189	<u>3/</u> 187	<u>3/</u> 227	243
Fruits.....	<u>3/</u> 205	<u>3/</u> 141	223	205	265
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	<u>3/</u> 179	<u>3/</u> 187	182	200	204
Meat Animals.....	<u>3/</u> 204	<u>3/</u> 221	193	237	240
Poultry.....	174	179	183	189	198
Dairy.....	<u>3/</u> 156	161	166	173	170
UNITED STATES					
Prices Received, All Farm Products.....	<u>3/</u> 186	<u>3/</u> 195	184	215	218
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services <u>1/</u>	<u>3/</u> 183	<u>3/</u> 193	<u>3/</u> 204	219	220
Parity Ratio <u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 102	<u>3/</u> 101	<u>3/</u> 90	98	99

1/ Including Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid.

3/ Revised.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PRICES MIXED, FEED PRICES UP

Average prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets about mid-June were mixed compared to a month earlier. (See Table, Page 3.) Soybeans dropped 17 cents per bushel to \$6.97. Corn increased 12 cents per bushel to \$2.86. This represents a 44 cents per bushel gain over the same period last year.

Prices received for livestock were also mixed. Hogs, at \$48.20 per hundredweight, were up \$1.40 per hundredweight over the previous month, while beef cattle at \$41.30 showed a decline of 90 cents per hundredweight.

Milk cows decreased \$5.00 per head

to \$370.00, but \$25.00 per head above June 1977.

Feed prices paid by the State's farmers during June were higher. (See Table, Page 3.) Mixed dairy feed with 16 percent protein was up \$4.00 per ton to \$148.00, while 32% protein feed increased \$5.00 to \$200.00 per ton. Broiler grower at \$183.00 per ton was up \$5.00, while laying feed increased \$5.00 per ton. Turkey grower remained unchanged. In the high protein feeds category, cottonseed meal (41 percent protein) and soybean meal (44 percent protein) remained unchanged from a month earlier.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		June 15 1977	May 15 1978	June 15 1978*	June 15 1977	May 15 1978	June 15 1978*
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	-	-	-	1.080	1.130	.980
Corn.....	Bu.	<u>2</u> /2.42	<u>2</u> /2.74	2.86	2.12	2.29	2.27
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.03	2.82	2.80
Oats.....	Bu.	<u>2</u> /1.31	-	-	1.29	1.23	1.20
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	1.93	2.15	2.20
Sorghum Grains..	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.12	3.87	3.72
Soybeans.....	Bu.	-	7.14	6.97	8.13	6.77	6.52
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.598	.537	.543
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.737	.786	.791
Hogs.....	Cwt.	42.30	46.80	48.20	42.00	47.80	47.70
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt.	27.30	42.20	41.30	34.00	50.30	51.30
Veal Calves.....	Cwt.	34.60	58.30	56.10	35.80	58.30	59.00
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	345.00	375.00	370.00	504.00	601.00	624.00
Com' l. Broilers..	Lb.	.245	.265	.295	.249	.272	.302
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.380	.400	.400	.342	.396	.408
Eggs <u>1</u> /.....	Doz.	.585	.598	.560	.473	.493	.436
Milk, Whlse.....	Cwt.	<u>2</u> /10.70	<u>2</u> /11.10	10.90	9.40	10.00	10.00
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	6.00	-	6.50	4.61	3.97	5.10
Sweet Potatoes..	Cwt.	9.10	12.60	-	11.22	14.20	18.80
Apples, Com' l...	Lb.	-	-	-	.121	.201	.255
Hay, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	61.30	55.30	51.20
Alfalfa Hay....	Ton	-	-	-	65.60	58.10	54.00
Other.....	Ton	-	-	-	50.10	47.20	43.00

1/ Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers.

2/ Revised.

* Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	June 15 1977	May 15 1978	June 15 1978	June 15 1977	May 15 1978	June 15 1978
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed						
14% Protein.....	144.00	-	-	140.00	130.00	132.00
16% Protein.....	152.00	144.00	148.00	149.00	136.00	140.00
18% Protein.....	-	147.00	150.00	-	147.00	151.00
20% Protein.....	-	151.00	157.00	-	148.00	152.00
32% Protein.....	225.00	195.00	200.00	232.00	203.00	206.00
Poultry Feeds						
Chick Starter.....	192.00	182.00	188.00	188.00	175.00	178.00
Broiler Grower.....	182.00	178.00	183.00	184.00	171.00	174.00
Laying Feed <u>1</u> /.....	167.00	158.00	163.00	162.00	155.00	157.00
Turkey Grower <u>1</u> /....	194.00	192.00	192.00	196.00	184.00	186.00
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products						
Bran.....	7.70	7.90	7.90	7.77	7.34	7.32
Middlings.....	7.40	7.20	7.30	7.64	7.29	7.24
Corn Meal.....	6.20	6.50	6.70	6.04	6.00	6.13
High Protein Feeds						
Cottonseed Meal 41%.	14.00	12.00	12.00	12.60	10.50	10.50
Soybean Meal 44%....	16.50	12.50	12.50	15.40	11.80	11.90

1/ Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

MAY SLAUGHTER RISES

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during May 1978 totaled 49.2 million pounds live weight, an increase of 3 percent above May 1977. The number of head slaughtered increased 4 percent to 179,300.

Cattle slaughtered were down 6 percent to 11.6 million pounds live weight. Calf slaughter declined 8 percent to 102,000 pounds live weight. Hog kill, at 37.4 million pounds live weight, increased 7 percent.

The average live weight per head for cattle slaughtered during May was 903 pounds, up 31 pounds from May a year earlier. The average weight for calves was up 32 pounds to 271. Hogs, at 225 pounds, were up 2 pounds from

May 1977.

Red meat production in North Carolina during May 1978, at 32.6 million pounds, was 3 percent above May 1977.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in May 1978 totaled 3.3 billion pounds, up 5 percent from May 1977. January-May total red meat output at 15.9 billion pounds was 1 percent below last year...change by individual components: beef, down 2 percent; veal, down 13; pork, virtually no change; lamb and mutton, down 14 percent. Commercial red meat production includes slaughter in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER //

SPECIES	MAY				JANUARY THROUGH MAY			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>	
NORTH CAROLINA								
Cattle	14.2	12.9	12,367	11,646	79.1	70.2	69,944	62,034
Calves	.5	.4	111	102	3.2	2.5	707	644
Sheep & Lambs	-	-	-	-	.1	.3	15	26
Hogs	157.1	166.0	35,039	37,412	805.7	811.1	178,902	179,919
TOTAL	171.8	179.3	47,517	49,160	888.1	884.1	249,568	242,623
	<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
UNITED STATES								
Cattle	3.3	3.4	3,391	3,526	17.0	16.8	17,608	17,301
Calves	.4	.3	107	87	2.3	1.9	560	475
Sheep & Lambs	.5	.5	52	52	2.6	2.3	294	252
Hogs	6.1	6.6	1,464	1,577	32.6	32.4	7,649	7,655
TOTAL	10.3	10.8	5,014	5,242	54.5	53.4	26,111	25,683

// Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

HOG NUMBERS (Cont'd. From Page 1)

During the past three month period, March-May 1978, the State's producers farrowed an estimated 115,000 sows, an increase of 6 percent from the comparable period a year earlier. Litters averaged 7.2 pigs compared with 7.35 pigs

per litter during March-May 1977. The combination of more sows farrowed and a slightly smaller number of pigs per litter resulted in a 4 percent increase

(See Hog Numbers, Page 5)

HOG NUMBERS (Cont'd. From Page 4)

in the pig crop for the quarter. The December 1977 through February 1978 pig crop was up 8 percent from the previous year.

Inventory of hogs and pigs on June 1, 1978 in the U. S. is estimated at 54.9 million head, up 1 percent from last year and nearly 2 percent above two years ago. Breeding inventory, at 8.8 million, is up 1 percent from 1977 and 5 percent above 1976. Market hogs inventory, at 46.1 million head, is nearly 1 percent above last year and two years ago.

U. S. hog producers intend to farrow 6.25 million sows during the June-November 1978 period. This is an increase of 4 percent from the same 1977 period and 7 percent above 1976.

If these intentions are realized along with an average litter rate, a pig crop of 45.0 million would be expected. If these projections are realized, the pig crop would be 4 percent more than the June-November pig crop of 1977.

The December 1977-May 1978 U. S. pig crop was 42.3 million head, 1 percent less than last year, but slightly above two years ago.

Slightly more than 6.01 million sows farrowed during this 6 months period -- 1 percent more than a year earlier. Pigs saved per litter at 7.04 were the lowest since 1960. A smaller litter size combined with conception problems reduced the expected pig crop for this period.

HOGS AND PIGS -- JUNE 1, 1978 REPORT: Number On Farms, Sows Farrowing, and Pig Crop, 1977-1978

ITEM	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousand Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>
NUMBER ON FARMS JUNE 1:						
All Hogs and Pigs.....	1,920	2,035	106	54,480	54,930	101
Kept for breeding.....	317	326	103	8,693	8,799	101
Market.....	1,603	1,709	107	45,787	46,131	101
Market Hogs and Pigs						
By Weight Groups:						
Under 60 Pounds.....	705	709	101	21,566	20,764	96
60-119 pounds.....	407	410	101	10,896	11,239	103
120-179 pounds.....	302	359	119	7,681	8,005	104
180-219 pounds.....	154	197	128	4,593	5,021	109
220 pounds and over...	35	34	97	1,051	1,102	105
SOWS FARROWING:						
December <u>1</u> / <u>-</u> February....	110	115	105	2,742	2,725	99
March-May.....	108	115	106	3,308	3,289	99
December <u>1</u> / <u>-</u> May.....	218	230	106	6,050	6,014	99
June-August.....	123	<u>2</u> /125	102	3,092	-	-
September-November.....	100	<u>2</u> /106	106	2,922	-	-
June-November.....	223	<u>2</u> /231	104	6,014	<u>2</u> /6,247	104
PIG CROP:						
December <u>1</u> / <u>-</u> February....	748	805	108	18,526	18,612	100
March-May.....	794	828	104	24,433	23,731	97
December <u>1</u> / <u>-</u> May.....	1,542	1,633	106	42,959	42,343	99
June-November.....	1,633	-	-	43,232	<u>3</u> /44,978	104
PIGS PER LITTER:						
December <u>1</u> / <u>-</u> February....	6.80	7.00	103	6.75	6.83	101
March-May.....	7.35	7.20	98	7.38	7.21	98
December <u>1</u> / <u>-</u> May.....	7.07	7.10	100	7.10	7.04	99
June-November.....	7.32	-	-	7.19	<u>3</u> /7.20	100

1/ December preceding year. 2/ Intentions. 3/ Average number of pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to compute indicated June-November pig crop.

INCREASE IN CHICKS HATCHED

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 35.4 million broiler-type chicks and 1.3 million egg-type chicks during May 1978. This is an increase of 44 percent for broiler-type and 8 percent for egg-type chicks from a year earlier.

For the Nation, the May hatch of

broiler-type chicks, at 360.5 million was 7 percent more than May 1977. Egg type chicks hatched totaled 53.6 million, an increase of 2 percent from a year earlier. The number of eggs in incubators on June 1, 1978 for the South Atlantic States increased 8 percent for broiler-type and 17 percent for egg-type

CHICKS HATCHED -- MAY

STATE	BROILER-TYPE		1978 As % Of 1977	EGG-TYPE		1978 As % Of 1977
	1977	1978		1977	1978	
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>
NORTH CAROLINA	34,494	35,444	103	900	1,300	144
South Carolina	3,162	3,639	115	833	757	91
Georgia	46,940	50,935	109	5,343	5,232	98
Florida	7,997	8,584	107	3,813	4,014	105
Delaware	16,433	17,216	105	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-
Maryland	18,816	20,360	108	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-
Virginia	9,605	10,200	106	1,054	720	68
UNITED STATES	337,406	360,466	107	52,452	53,600	102

1/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

TURKEY HATCH UNCHANGED FROM YEAR AGO

The hatch of 20.7 million turkey poults during May was virtually the same as a year ago. The hatch of heavy breeds was up 3 percent from May 1977 but light breed poults were down 43 percent.

The 27.1 million turkey eggs in incubators on June 1, 1978 were up 1 percent from a year earlier. Eggs set

for heavy breed turkeys were up 4 percent from last year but light breeds were down 39 percent.

Heavy breed turkeys in flocks tested for pullorum-typhoid totaled 115 thousand, an increase of 8 percent from May 1977. Testings for July through May were 2.4 million, a decrease of 1 percent from the same period a year ago.

TURKEY POULTS HATCHED -- MAY

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	HEAVY BREEDS <u>1/</u>		LIGHT BREEDS <u>2/</u>		ALL BREEDS		
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>				<i>Percent</i>		
North Atlantic	412	472	83	16	495	488	99
East North Central	2,544	2,679	71	12	2,615	2,691	103
West North Central	7,067	7,409	766	494	7,833	7,903	101
South Atlantic	3,220	3,492	354	259	3,574	3,751	105
South Central	2,161	1,975	0	0	2,161	1,975	91
West	3,916	3,831	117	18	4,033	3,849	95
UNITED STATES	19,320	19,858	1,391	799	20,711	20,657	100

1/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is 12 pounds or over.

2/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is under 12 pounds.

NUMBER OF LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- MAY

STATE	LAYERS ON HAND		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		TOTAL EGGS PRODUCED	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
NORTH CAROLINA	11,550	13,675	2,086	2,108	241	288
Virginia	3,249	3,553	2,027	2,021	66	72
South Carolina	5,020	5,523	2,207	2,195	111	121
Georgia	22,770	24,415	2,031	2,083	462	509
Florida	12,407	12,076	1,993	2,065	247	249
UNITED STATES	268,784	275,118	2,034	2,061	5,468	5,669

CROP ACREAGES: North Carolina and United States, 1976-78

CROP	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
	<i>Thousands</i>					
Corn: Planted All Purposes.....	2,050	1,950	1,720	84,374	82,680	78,717
Harvested For Grain.....	1,880	1,690	1,540	71,300	70,006	68,184
Wheat: Planted All Purposes <u>1/</u> ..	275	235	220	80,202	74,804	66,315
Harvested For Grain <u>1/</u> ..	240	200	175	70,771	66,216	56,532
Oats: Planted All Purposes.....	175	170	185	16,734	17,793	16,370
Harvested For Grain.....	80	75	90	11,946	13,447	11,951
Barley: Planted All Purposes...	73	67	70	9,157	10,586	9,925
Harvested For Grain....	60	55	59	8,297	9,490	9,116
Rye: Planted All Purposes.....	130	130	135	2,652	2,652	2,965
Harvested For Grain.....	20	21	26	721	694	1,070
Sorghums: Planted All Purposes...	125	110	115	18,402	16,994	16,546
Harvested For Grain..	90	72	79	14,723	14,065	13,676
Soybeans: Planted All Purposes...	1,220	1,450	1,670	50,226	59,080	64,293
Harvested For Beans..	1,120	1,320	1,600	49,358	57,911	63,178
Peanuts: Planted All Purposes..	168	169	169	1,549	1,545	1,542
Harvested For Nuts....	166	166	166	1,522	1,516	1,516
Cotton: Planted <u>2/</u>	75	87	50	11,656	13,695	13,147
Harvested <u>2/</u>	71	83	45	10,914	13,279	12,469
Tobacco: Type 11.....	185	160	155	255	221	211
Type 12.....	203	177	186	203	177	186
Type 13.....	51	46	49	126	114	119
All Flue-Cured.....	439	383	390	667	589	589
Type 31.....	9.0	9.6	8.5	285.8	268.5	259.3
All Types.....	448.0	392.6	398.5	1,044.5	957.7	945.3
Hay: All Harvested.....	350	350	360	60,311	60,493	61,254
Alfalfa.....	15	16	17	26,651	27,085	27,559
All Other.....	335	334	343	33,660	33,408	33,695
Sweet Potatoes: Planted.....	35.0	34.0	38.0	122.8	117.3	123.2
Harvested.....	33.0	33.0	37.0	117.8	112.4	119.5
Irish Potatoes: Planted.....	17.5	17.7	17.3	1,169.9	1,164.3	1,157.6
Harvested.....	17.0	17.4	17.0	1,143.0	1,129.6	<u>3/</u>

1/ U. S. includes Winter, Durum and Other Spring. 2/ U. S. acreages include American-Pima. 3/ Revised 1977 and preliminary 1978 estimates to be released August 10, 1978.

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U.S. Department of Agriculture / N.C. Department of Agriculture

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Semi-Monthly

JUNE WEATHER GENERALLY FAVORABLE TO CROPS

June was a favorable month for crop development in North Carolina. Scattered showers and thundershowers occurred regularly on a local basis throughout the State. Precipitation for the month was about normal. The southeast portion of the State received the greatest amounts of rain during this time. Temperatures averaged slightly above normal until the end of the month when extremely hot and humid weather prevailed.

As of July 8, soil moisture was short to adequate throughout the State. Statewide, soil moisture averaged 6% very short, 45% short, 47% adequate and 2% surplus. The western Mountains were the only region reporting short conditions at this particular time.

Crop production estimates published in this report are based on yield surveys taken about July 1 and assumes average or normal weather from July 1 through harvest. Any changes occurring since July 1, because of departures from normal weather, will be reflected in the August 1 forecast to be published August 10.

The main farm activities during June were planting soybeans, combining small grains, cultivating crops in general, topdressing tobacco, cutting hay, harvesting potatoes and picking peaches. Soybean planting was nearing completion by the end of June.

LARGER FLUE-CURED CROP EXPECTED

Based on conditions around July 1, flue-cured tobacco is forecast at 762 million pounds, 41 million pounds or 6% more than the 1977 crop. About 390,000 acres will be harvested this season, which is 2% more than last year. An average yield of 1,955 pounds per acre is forecast. This is 72 pounds per acre

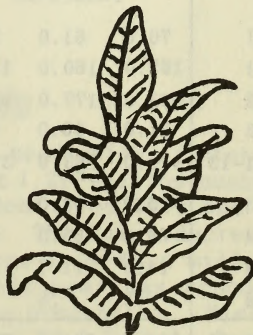
more than the 1977 average yield of 1,883 pounds. Forecasted production by areas compared with previous year are as follows: Type 11 (Old and Middle Belts) - 271 million pounds, down from 283 million pounds; Type 12 (Eastern Belt) - 391 million pounds, up from 346 million pounds; Type 13 (Border Belt) 100 million pounds, up from 92 million pounds.

U. S. flue-cured production is forecast at 1.15 billion pounds, up 2% from the output of 1.13 billion pounds in 1977. The increase in prospective production reflects an anticipated increase in yield. The July 1 indicated yield of 1,959 pounds compares with 1,917 pounds last year. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 589 thousand acres, down slightly from the acreage harvested a year earlier. (See Table, Page 2)

N. C. BURLEY ACREAGE DOWN

The burley crop in North Carolina is expected to total 8,500 acres for harvest. This is a decrease of 1,100 acres from 1977 and 500 acres from the 1976 estimate.

Nationally, burley acreage is down 3 percent from 1977 and down 9 percent from 1976 to 259,300 acres.



PEACH CROP LARGER

Peach production in North Carolina this year is forecast at 40 million pounds, down 4 million pounds from the June 1 forecast but up 14% from the 1977 crop. By July 15, about half of the crop had been picked. Harvest progress this season has been about the same as usual.

The Nation's 1978 peach crop is now forecast at 2.57 billion pounds, off 6% from a month ago and 14% below last season's total.

LESS APPLES IN STATE MORE IN U. S.

N. C. commercial apple production is expected to total 260 million pounds 4% less than the 1977 crop. The condition of apples is considered mostly good throughout the State.

The Nation's apple production is forecast at 7.15 billion pounds, which is 7% above last year's total and a 10% increase over the 1976 crop.

PEACH PRODUCTION

STATE	1976	1977	Indicated July 1, 1978
<i>Million Pounds</i>			
N. C.	25.0	35.0	40.0
S. C.	270.0	275.0	230.0
Ga.	200.0	90.0	120.0
Ala.	14.0	10.0	15.0
Miss.	5.0	4.0	4.0
Ark.	42.0	40.0	38.0
La.	7.0	6.5	7.0
Okla.	8.0	10.0	11.0
Texas	17.0	48.0	40.0
Total 9 States	588.0	518.5	505.0
U. S.	3,020.0	2,991.0	2,569.6

N. C. EXPECTS LARGER BARLEY CROP

Barley production in North Carolina for 1978 is estimated at 3.0 million bushels, up 37 percent from a year ago. Harvested acres are set at 59,000, up from the 55,000 acres harvested during 1977. Yield per acre was up noticeably, and at 51 bushels per acre, it was 28 percent above last year.

The U. S. barley crop is set at 410.4 million bushels, which is 1 percent below last year's production. Although yield per acre was up to 45.0 bushels from 43.8 bushels in 1977, acres for harvest dropped from 9.5 million in 1977 to 9.1 million this year causing the decrease in production.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO, BY TYPE, JULY 1, 1978

STATE	TYPE	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978	1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978	1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978
		Thousands			Pounds			Thousand Pounds		
Virginia	11	70.0	61.0	56.0	1,780	1,795	1,750	124,600	109,495	98,000
N. C.	11	185.0	160.0	155.0	1,830	1,770	1,750	338,550	283,200	271,250
N. C.	12	203.0	177.0	186.0	2,140	1,955	2,100	434,420	346,035	390,600
N. C.	13	51.0	46.0	49.0	2,160	1,995	2,050	110,160	91,770	100,450
N.C. Total	11-13	439.0	383.0	390.0	2,012	1,883	1,954	883,130	721,005	762,300
S. C.	13	75.0	68.0	70.0	2,045	2,040	2,050	153,375	138,720	143,500
Georgia	14	68.0	65.0	61.0	1,820	2,075	2,050	123,760	134,875	125,050
Florida	14	14.0	11.7	11.0	2,160	2,100	2,100	30,240	24,570	23,100
Alabama	14	.6	.6	.5	1,800	1,900	1,800	1,152	1,045	936
U.S. TOTAL	11-14	666.6	589.3	588.5	1,974	1,917	1,959	1,316,257	1,129,710	1,152,886

INCREASE IN TAR HEEL CORN

As of July 1, corn for grain production in North Carolina is forecast at 112 million bushels. This is 30% more than last year's drought reduced crop. Corn acreage for grain harvest is estimated at 1.54 million acres, 9% less than 1977. The yield forecast of 73 bushels per acre is 22 bushels above the 1977 average yield of 51 bushels.

U. S. corn for grain production, forecast at 6.15 billion bushels, is down 4% from the record 1977 crop and down 2% from 1976. If the July 1 forecast is realized, this will be the third largest crop of record. Conditions on July 1 indicated an average yield per acre of 90.1 bushels compared with 91.0 bushels last year, 87.9 bushels in 1976 and the record 97.0 bushels set in 1972.

MORE OATS IN N. C.

Production of oats in North Carolina is forecast at 4.8 million bushels, an increase of 51 percent from a year ago. This reflects a 20 percent increase in acreage to 90,000 acres for harvest, and an increase of 26 percent in yield to 53 bushels per acre from last year.

Nationally, the production of oats was off 15 percent from 1977 to 635.6 million bushels. Yield per acre, at 33.2 was down 2.4 bushels from a year ago. Acres for harvest are estimated at 12.0 million, down 11 percent from 1977.

RYE PRODUCTION RISES

Farmers in North Carolina expect to produce 572,000 bushels of rye this year, an increase of 43 percent from 1977. Yield was up 3 bushels from last year to 22 bushels per acre. Acres for harvest at 26,000 rose 24 percent from a year ago.

Production of rye in the U. S. is estimated at 28.5 million bushels, an increase of 68 percent from 1977. This large increase is mostly the result of harvesting 1.1 million acres, almost double the number from last year. Yield was up 2.2 bushels to 26.7 bushels per acre.

SUMMER IRISH POTATOES UNCHANGED

The first forecast of summer Irish potato production in North Carolina for 1978 has been set at 500,000 cwt., unchanged from last year's production. Acres for harvest set at 4,000 is also the same as last year. Yield per acre has remained constant at 125 cwt. for 1978, the same as the past two years.

The summer Irish potato production forecast for the U. S. is currently placed at 21.2 million cwt., 4% below the 22.0 million cwt. produced in 1977. The 1978 crop is expected to be harvested from 113 thousand acres, down 2% from 1977. The average yield per acre is forecast at 188 cwt. compared with 191 cwt. in 1977.

WINTER WHEAT UNCHANGED

Production of winter wheat in North Carolina is forecast at 5,950,000 bushels, the same as the June 1 estimate but 1 percent below the 1977 production. The slight drop in production can be attributed to a decrease in acres for harvest from 200,000 in 1977 to 175,000 this year. Yield per acre is forecast at 34 bushels, up 4 bushels from 1977.

U. S. production of winter wheat is forecast at 1,277 million bushels, a drop of 16 percent from 1977 and 18 percent from 1976. The large decrease in harvested acres from 48.4 million in 1977 to 38.8 this year was responsible for the drop in production. Yield per acre increased to 32.9 bushels from 31.5 last year.

NORTH CAROLINA: Estimated Acreage, Yield and Production Of Crops, July 1, 1978, With Comparisons

CROPS	UNIT	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
Thousands										
Corn for Grain.....	Bu.	1,880	1,690	1,540	80.0	51.0	73.0	150,400	86,190	112,420
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	240	200	175	29.0	30.0	34.0	6,960	6,000	5,950
Oats.....	Bu.	80	75	90	47.0	42.0	53.0	3,760	3,150	4,770
Barley.....	Bu.	60	55	59	39.0	40.0	51.0	2,340	2,200	3,009
Rye.....	Bu.	20	21	26	19.0	19.0	22.0	380	399	572
Tobacco: Flue-Cured....	Lb.	439.0	383.0	390.0	2,012	1,883	1,955	883,130	721,005	762,300
Burley.....	Lb.	9.0	9.6	8.5	2,200	2,450	✓	19,800	23,520	✓
All Types.....	Lb.	448.0	392.6	398.5	2,015	1,896	✓	902,930	744,525	✓
Cotton 2/.....	Lb.	71	83	45	489	305	✓	72	53	✓
Sorghum for Grain.....	Bu.	90	72	79	51.0	37.0	✓	4,590	2,664	✓
Thousands										
Irish Potatoes: Spring..	Cwt.	13.0	13.4	13.0	145	165	145	1,885	2,211	1,885
Summer..	Cwt.	4.0	4.0	4.0	125	125	125	500	500	500
All.....	Cwt.	17.0	17.4	17.0	140	156	140	2,385	2,711	2,385
Sweet Potatoes.....	Cwt.	33.0	33.0	37.0	130	135	✓	4,290	4,455	✓
Soybeans for Beans.....	Bu.	1,120	1,320	1,600	22.0	22.0	✓	24,640	29,040	✓
Peanuts for Nuts.....	Lb.	166	166	166	2,655	2,675	✓	440,730	444,050	✓
Hay: Alfalfa & Mixtures.	Ton	15	16	17	2.70	2.30	✓	41	37	✓
All Other.....	Ton	335	334	343	1.40	1.45	✓	469	484	✓
All Kinds.....	Ton	350	350	360	1.46	1.49	✓	510	521	✓
Pasture Condition 3/.....	%	4/ 87	78	86	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peaches, All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,000	35,000	40,000
Apples, Commercial.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	265,000	270,000	260,000

 First estimate August 10, 1978. 2 Production in 480. lb. NWB. 3 Data shown for pastures represent condition, not acres. 4 1967-76 average condition on July 1.

UNITED STATES: Estimated Acreage, Yield and Production Of Crops, July 1, 1978, With Comparisons

CROPS	UNIT	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
		Thousands						Thousands		
Corn for Grain.....	Bu.	71,300	70,006	68,184	87.9	91.0	90.1	6,266,359	6,370,624	6,145,421
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	49,460	48,419	38,846	31.5	31.5	32.9	1,559,923	1,526,713	1,276,705
Wheat, All.....	Bu.	70,771	66,216	56,532	30.3	30.6	31.9	2,142,362	2,025,793	1,801,705
Oats.....	Bu.	11,946	13,447	11,951	45.7	55.6	53.2	546,315	747,914	635,551
Barley.....	Bu.	8,297	9,490	9,116	44.9	43.8	45.0	372,461	415,803	410,406
Rye.....	Bu.	721	694	1,070	20.7	24.5	26.7	14,951	16,998	28,518
Tobacco: Flue-cured.....	Lb.	666.6	589.3	588.5	1,974	1,917	1,959	1,316,257	1,129,710	1,152,886
Burley.....	Lb.	285.8	268.5	259.3	2,376	2,298	✓	678,976	616,929	✓
All Types.....	Lb.	1,044.5	957.7	945.3	2,045	1,997	✓	2,135,829	1,912,187	✓
Cotton ✓.....	Lb.	10,914	13,279	12,469	465	520	✓	10,581	14,389	✓
Sorghum for Grain.....	Bu.	14,723	14,065	13,676	48.9	56.2	✓	719,817	790,647	✓
Irish Potatoes: Spring..	Cwt.	98.4	91.4	90.7	251	250	199	24,722	22,870	18,028
Summer..	Cwt.	118.7	115.2	112.7	190	191	188	22,541	21,982	21,167
Sweet Potatoes.....	Cwt.	117.8	112.4	119.5	114	110	✓	13,432	12,395	✓
Soybeans for Beans.....	Bu.	49,358	57,911	63,178	26.1	29.6	✓	1,287,560	1,716,334	✓
Peanuts for Nuts.....	Lb.	1,522	1,516	1,516	2,465	2,457	✓	3,750,890	3,726,015	✓
Hay: Alfalfa & Mixtures.	Ton	26,651	27,085	27,559	2.62	2.97	✓	69,828	80,430	✓
All Other.....	Ton	33,660	33,408	33,695	1.49	1.52	✓	50,178	50,627	✓
All Kinds.....	Ton	60,311	60,493	61,254	1.99	2.17	✓	120,006	131,057	✓
Pasture Condition ✓.....	%	✓ 84	68	85	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peaches, All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,020,000	2,991,000	2,569,600
Apples, Commercial.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,479,200	6,655,600	7,148,000

✓ First estimate August 10, 1978. ✓ U. S. includes American-Pima. Production in 480-lb. NWB. ✓ Data shown for pastures represent condition, not acres. ✓ 1967-76 average condition on July 1.

COTTON ACRES PLANTED DOWN

North Carolina farmers planted 50,000 acres of cotton in 1978, a decrease of 43 percent from a year ago and a drop of 33 percent from 1976.

U. S. growers planted 13,147,000 acres of cotton in 1978. This is 4 percent below the 1977 acreage but 13 percent higher than 1976.

COTTON ACREAGE REPORT, JULY 1, 1978

STATE	1976		1977		1978 <u>1/</u>	
	Planted	Harvested	Planted	Harvested	Planted	Planted % Of 1977
UPLAND	<i>Thousand Acres</i>				<i>Percent</i>	
NORTH CAROLINA	75	71	87	83	50	57
South Carolina	170	159	170	153	120	71
Georgia	255	240	230	170	150	65
Tennessee	420	370	325	300	300	92
Alabama	460	420	420	395	360	86
Missouri	305	260	270	262	240	89
Mississippi	1,530	1,470	1,380	1,360	1,220	88
Arkansas	1,125	950	950	930	850	89
Louisiana	570	560	545	540	510	94
Oklahoma	350	335	535	520	580	108
Texas	4,800	4,500	6,650	6,450	6,600	99
New Mexico	68	64	131	128	130	99
Arizona	341	340	517	515	540	104
California	1,130	1,120	1,400	1,390	1,420	101
Other <u>2/</u>	11.0	10.1	9.4	8.9	6.7	71
U.S. UPLAND <u>3/</u>	11,610.0	10,869.1	13,619.4	13,204.9	13,076.7	96
U.S. Am. Pima <u>4/</u>	45.5	44.4	75.1	74.4	70.1	93
U.S. All	11,656	10,914	13,695	13,279	13,147	96

1/ Estimates of harvested acres and production, to be released August 11.

2/ Virginia, Florida, Kentucky and Nevada. 3/ Sum of State totals above.

4/ Includes total American Pima in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, not included in individual state data above.

N. C. MILK PRODUCTION DOWN

North Carolina dairy herds produced an estimated 131 million pounds of milk during June, a decrease of 5% from a year earlier but the same as June 1976. Milk production per cow, at 925 pounds, was 5 pounds above June 1977. Estimated milk cows on farms during June totaled 142,000 head.

U. S. milk production totaled 10.9 billion pounds, down 1% from June 1977.

Average production per cow was 1,007 pounds, 3 pounds more than a year earlier and 29 pounds more than June 1976. Milk cows were estimated at 10.9 million head during June, off 1 percent from last year.

U. S. accumulated production for the first 6 months of 1978 was down fractionally from last year, but was 2% above the same period in 1976.

MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION--JUNE 1978

STATE	Milk Cows On Farms <i>L/</i>	Milk Per Cow	Milk Production	
			Pounds	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Millions</i>	<i>Percent</i>
NORTH CAROLINA.	142	925	131	95
Virginia.....	172	950	163	101
Maryland.....	134	970	130	98
Georgia.....	129	760	98	99
Florida.....	196	840	165	104
UNITED STATES..	10,854	1,007	10,928	99

L/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE OUTLOOK

Growers in North Carolina intend to harvest 8,000 acres of watermelons this year. This acreage represents an increase of 1,000 acres from last year's crop. The crop is generally in good condition.

The U. S. prospective area of watermelons for harvest during the summer quarter of 1978 is estimated at 114 thousand acres, virtually the same as the area harvested during the same period of 1977. Production is expected to total 10.7 million cwt., a decrease of 2 percent from the 1977 summer output.

Acreage of green peppers for harvest in the Tar Heel State is estimated at 7,200 acres, 200 more than the 1977 summer quarter.

The Nation's crop for harvest during the summer quarter is estimated at 23.3 thousand acres, 2 percent above the 1977 summer period. Projected production for the summer quarter is placed at 1.89 million cwt., virtually the same as last year.

The North Carolina sweet corn crop is estimated at 5,100 acres for harvest for the summer quarter, 4% more than 1977. Prospects are generally good across the State. Harvest is underway in the northeast area.

The U. S. acreage estimate for the 1978 summer quarter is expected to total 101 thousand acres, up 3 percent from 1977. Production is projected at 6.98 million cwt., 5 percent above the same period in 1977.

Farmers in North Carolina intend to harvest 3,000 acres of cabbage during the summer quarter this year. This is 400 acres more than last year. Prospects for North Carolina are good.

Prospective area for harvest Nationally, during the summer quarter is estimated at 23.3 thousand acres, 7 percent above a year ago. Projected production is placed at 6.13 million cwt., 2 percent larger than 1977.

The summer snap bean crop in North Carolina is expected to total 3,600 acres for harvest. This year's estimate is down 100 acres from the 1977 summer quarter.

The U. S. acres for harvest for the summer quarter is placed at 30.1 thousand acres, 7 percent more than in 1977. The summer acreage is expected to produce 1.11 million cwt. of snap beans, 6 percent more than last year's summer production.

Acres for harvest in North Carolina for the summer quarter are set at 5,100, up 34% from the 3,800 harvested acres last year. Crop prospects look good throughout the State. Harvest is getting underway.

The 1978 summer quarter prospective area for harvest in the U. S. is estimated at 14.6 thousand acres, 7 percent above 1977. Production is projected at 1.61 million cwt., 8 percent more than last year.

Summer tomato acreage for harvest in North Carolina is estimated at 2,100 acres, up 100 acres from last year. The crop is looking good at this time and production prospects are favorable.

Nationally, the intended area for harvest during the summer quarter is 47.7 thousand acres, 1 percent more than the area harvested during the summer quarter of 1977. Projected production is placed at 7.06 million cwt., down 1 percent from 1977.

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NORTH CAROLINA FARM REPORT



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JULY PRICE INDEX UP

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets during July is 200 (1967 = 100), an increase of 2 points from June 1978 and 40 points from July 1977.

The July "All Crops" index at 192, is down 1 point from June, but is up 48 points from July 1977. A slight decline in tobacco prices, which carries a large weight in the index along with declines in grains and oil bearing crops is mostly responsible for the decline. Commercial vegetables registered a 17 point increase above last month while fruits remained unchanged.

The "Livestock and Livestock Products" index rose 8 points from June 1978 to 214. Poultry jumped 19 points to 217 in July while meat animals and dairy declined 5 points and 1 point respectively.

(See Table, Page 3)

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PRICES MIXED, FEED PRICES DOWN

Average prices received for crops by North Carolina farmers at local markets about mid-July were mostly down compared to a month earlier. (See Table, Page 2.) Corn was down 13 cents per bushel to \$2.65. Soybeans were down 22 cents to \$6.73 per bushel. Oats dropped 2 cents to \$1.20 per bushel.

Prices received for livestock were mixed during July. Hogs, at \$46.30 per hundredweight, dropped \$1.90. Beef cattle and veal calves rose \$.90 and 60 cents per hundredweight, respectively. Milk cows at \$390.00 per head increased \$20.00 above the previous month.

Prices the state's farmers had to pay for feed during July were mostly lower. (See Table, Page 2.) Mixed dairy feed with 16 percent protein remained unchanged, while 32 percent protein feed decreased \$4.00 to \$196.00 per ton. Chick starter and broiler grower were both down \$4.00 per ton while laying feed was down \$1.00 per ton. In the high protein feeds category, cottonseed meal (41 percent protein) increased \$1.00 per hundredweight and soybean meal (44 percent protein) remained unchanged.

1977 CASH RECEIPTS LOWER

North Carolina farmers received an estimated \$2,622 million from the marketing of farm products during 1977, a decrease of 7 percent from 1976, and 1 percent from 1975. (See Table, Page 2.) Crop sales at \$1,554 million accounted for 59 of the total income. Livestock sales, at \$1,068 accounted for the remaining 41 percent of the total.

Tobacco, as usual, brought in the largest share of cash receipts, an estimated \$866 million in 1977 or 33 percent of income from all agricultural commodities. This compared to \$999 in 1976, represents a 13 percent decline from the previous year. An extended dry period during the growing season was most responsible for the overall 11 percent decline in total crops receipts.

Poultry and eggs, at \$618 million, accounted for 23.6 percent of income from all commodities in 1977. This also represents an 8 percent increase above 1976 income. Meat animals were the next largest contributor to income. At \$269 in 1977, they represent 10.3 percent of the total cash receipts from farm products. However, this was an 18 percent decline from cash receipts received in 1976 for meat animals.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		July 15 1977	June 15 1978	July 15 1978*	July 15 1977	June 15 1978	July 15 1978*
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	.818	-	116.3	.887	.980	127.9
Corn.....	Bu.	<u>2/2.10</u>	<u>2/2.78</u>	2.65	1.88	<u>2/2.28</u>	2.12
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.04	<u>2/2.82</u>	2.78
Oats.....	Bu.	<u>2/1.23</u>	1.22	1.20	1.02	<u>2/1.16</u>	1.09
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	1.53	<u>2/2.04</u>	1.90
Sorghum Grains..	Cwt.	-	-	-	2.85	<u>2/3.64</u>	3.58
Soybeans.....	Bu.	<u>2/6.28</u>	<u>2/6.95</u>	6.73	<u>2/6.52</u>	<u>2/6.69</u>	6.37
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.617	<u>2/ .548</u>	.571
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.723	.791	.786
Hogs.....	Cwt.	<u>2/44.70</u>	48.20	46.30	<u>2/44.80</u>	47.70	45.20
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt.	<u>2/25.40</u>	41.30	42.20	34.90	51.30	49.80
Veal Calves.....	Cwt.	32.30	56.10	56.70	<u>2/36.40</u>	59.00	59.90
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	345.00	370.00	390.00	506.00	624.00	636.00
Com'l. Broilers..	Lb.	.260	.295	.335	<u>2/ .259</u>	.302	.328
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.370	.400	.400	<u>2/ .338</u>	.408	.418
Eggs <u>1/</u>	Doz.	.625	.560	.593	<u>2/ .509</u>	.436	.483
Milk, Whlse.....	Cwt.	<u>2/10.70</u>	<u>2/11.30</u>	11.20	<u>2/9.49</u>	10.00	10.10
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	6.65	6.50	6.15	<u>2/5.07</u>	5.10	7.41
Sweet Potatoes..	Cwt.	-	-	-	10.90	18.80	16.70
Apples, Com'l...	Lb.	.105	-	-	.134	.255	.228
Hay, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	56.80	51.20	49.20
Alfalfa Hay....	Ton	-	-	-	60.60	54.00	52.00
Other.....	Ton	-	-	-	48.10	43.00	42.60

1/ Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers. 2/ Revised. *Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	July 15 1977	June 15 1978	July 15 1978	July 15 1977	June 15 1978	July 15 1978
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed	140.00	-	-	134.00	132.00	131.00
14% Protein.....	145.00	-	-	141.00	140.00	139.00
16% Protein.....	-	148.00	148.00	-	151.00	149.00
18% Protein.....	-	150.00	144.00	-	152.00	149.00
20% Protein.....	-	157.00	152.00	-	152.00	149.00
32% Protein.....	210.00	200.00	196.00	211.00	206.00	204.00
Poultry Feeds						
Chick Starter.....	184.00	188.00	184.00	179.00	178.00	178.00
Broiler Grower....	182.00	183.00	179.00	175.00	174.00	170.00
Laying Feed <u>1/</u>	157.00	163.00	162.00	153.00	157.00	155.00
Turkey Grower <u>1/</u> ...	194.00	192.00	192.00	188.00	186.00	186.00
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products						
Bran.....	7.70	7.90	7.70	7.65	7.32	7.26
Middlings.....	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.53	7.24	7.06
Corn Meal.....	6.10	6.70	6.60	5.76	6.13	6.10
High Protein Feeds						
Cottonseed Meal 41%	13.50	12.00	13.00	12.00	10.50	10.60
Soybean Meal 44%...	14.00	12.50	12.50	13.20	11.90	11.90

1/ Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DOWN 2 POINTS

PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The July Index of Prices Received by Farmers decreased 2 points (1 percent) to 215 percent of its January-December 1967 average. Contributing most to the decrease since June were lower prices for cattle, corn, hogs, soybeans, and lettuce. Higher prices for potatoes, broilers and eggs were partially offsetting. The index was 35 points (19 percent) above a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates for July 15 was 220, unchanged from mid-June. Production components of the index averaged unchanged but the family living component was up. The July index was 17 points (8 percent) higher than a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	July 15 1975	July 15 1976	July 15 1977	June 15 1978	July 15 1978
NORTH CAROLINA					
Prices Received: All Farm Products....	<u>3/</u> 165	173	<u>3/</u> 160	<u>3/</u> 198	200
All Crops.....	<u>3/</u> 151	<u>3/</u> 164	<u>3/</u> 144	<u>3/</u> 193	192
Tobacco.....	<u>3/</u> 132	141	125	178	177
Cotton.....	<u>3/</u> 176	242	-	-	-
Oil Bearing.....	<u>3/</u> 187	225	<u>3/</u> 210	<u>3/</u> 226	222
Grains.....	205	217	<u>3/</u> 152	<u>3/</u> 200	191
Commercial Vegetables.....	<u>3/</u> 189	<u>3/</u> 179	<u>3/</u> 194	<u>3/</u> 259	276
Fruits.....	<u>3/</u> 160	<u>3/</u> 200	182	265	265
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	<u>3/</u> 191	<u>3/</u> 188	187	<u>3/</u> 206	214
Meat Animals.....	221	216	198	240	235
Poultry.....	187	182	188	198	217
Dairy.....	<u>3/</u> 158	<u>3/</u> 162	<u>3/</u> 167	<u>3/</u> 176	175
UNITED STATES					
Prices Received, All Farm Products.....	<u>3/</u> 191	<u>3/</u> 194	180	<u>3/</u> 217	215
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services <u>1/</u>	<u>3/</u> 183	<u>3/</u> 194	203	220	220
Parity Ratio <u>2/</u>	104	<u>3/</u> 100	89	99	98

1/ Including Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. 3/ Revised.

CATTLE AND CALVES INVENTORY DOWN 7 PERCENT

All cattle and calves on hand in the United States on July 1, 1978 are estimated at nearly 122 million head, down 7 percent from a year earlier and 9 percent below July 1, 1976.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 48.5 million head, are down 7 percent from a year ago and 10 percent below July 1, 1976.

Other classes on July 1 and the change from one and two years earlier, respectively, are as follows: all heifers over 500 pounds, 18.1 million, down 2 percent from 1977 and 5 percent below 1976; beef replacement heifers, 5.36 million, down 8 percent and 18 percent; milk replacement heifers, 3.94 million, down 2 percent and virtually unchanged; other heifers, 8.75 million, up 3 per-

cent and 4 percent; steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 17.8 million, down 4 percent and 5 percent; bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.46 million, down 9 percent and 11 percent; heifers, steers, and bulls under 500 pounds, 34.8 million, down 9 percent and 12 percent.

The 1978 calf crop is expected to be 44.1 million head, off 4 percent from the 46.1 million in 1977 and 13 percent less than the record high of 50.9 million in 1974. The estimate of calves born and to be born includes all calves born alive. (See Table, Page 6.)

Deaths of cattle and calves during January-June 1978 were 10 percent above a year earlier because of the effects of severe winter weather.

CASH RECEIPTS FROM NORTH CAROLINA FARM MARKETINGS

COMMODITIES	RECEIPTS			PERCENTAGE OF ALL COMMODITIES	
	1975	1976	1977 <u>1/</u>	1976	1977
	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>			<i>Percent</i>	
ALL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES: <u>2/</u> ..	2,638,343	2,809,841	2,622,248	100.0	100.0
Crops.....	1,637,434	1,741,707	1,554,421	62.0	59.3
Livestock & Livestock Products..	1,000,909	1,068,134	1,067,827	38.0	40.7
INDIVIDUAL CROPS:					
Food Grains.....	20,415	14,426	14,300	.5	.5
Wheat.....	19,944	13,856	13,705	.5	.5
Rye.....	471	570	595	*	*
Feed Grains.....	221,095	249,439	154,198	8.9	5.9
Corn.....	207,038	236,140	142,811	8.4	5.4
Hay.....	3,950	3,779	4,469	.1	.2
Oats.....	2,335	2,020	1,812	.1	.1
Sorghum Grain.....	5,960	5,869	3,666	.2	.1
Barley.....	1,812	1,631	1,440	.1	.1
Cotton.....	14,736	19,523	20,843	.7	.8
Cotton Lint.....	13,197	17,244	19,672	.6	.8
Cotton Seed.....	1,539	2,279	1,171	.1	*
Tobacco.....	951,356	998,699	866,020	35.5	33.0
Oil Crops.....	239,728	239,437	229,472	8.5	8.8
Peanuts.....	72,748	68,861	90,165	2.5	3.4
Soybeans.....	166,980	170,576	139,307	6.1	5.3
Vegetables.....	80,600	84,957	91,698	3.0	3.5
Potatoes.....	14,513	11,849	15,535	.4	.6
Sweet Potatoes.....	17,797	22,889	27,532	.8	1.0
Cucumbers <u>3/</u>	14,327	14,595	12,991	.5	.5
Snap Beans <u>3/</u>	5,924	5,446	5,205	.2	.2
Cabbage.....	5,028	5,574	4,783	.2	.2
Tomatoes <u>3/</u>	4,221	3,932	4,765	.1	.2
Peppers.....	4,564	3,862	3,134	.1	.1
Corn, Sweet.....	2,397	2,503	2,102	.1	.1
Watermelons.....	1,368	1,456	1,286	.1	*
Cantaloupes.....	600	800	1,000	*	*
Miscellaneous Vegetables.....	9,861	12,051	13,365	.4	.5
Fruits and Nuts.....	29,791	32,610	41,455	1.2	1.6
Apples.....	17,049	23,275	29,472	.8	1.1
Peaches.....	5,162	3,272	4,266	.1	.2
Strawberries.....	2,035	2,024	1,848	.1	.1
Pecans.....	766	1,628	1,032	.1	*
Grapes.....	984	1,003	1,088	*	*
Other Fruits and Nuts <u>4/</u>	3,795	1,408	3,749	.1	.1
All Other Crops.....	79,713	102,616	136,435	3.7	5.2
Forest Products.....	45,000	60,000	80,000	2.1	3.1
Greenhouse Nursery.....	33,000	41,000	55,000	1.5	2.1
Lespedeza Seed.....	86	76	97	*	*
Miscellaneous Crops <u>5/</u>	1,627	1,540	1,338	.1	.1
LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS:					
Meat Animals.....	300,494	327,919	269,124	11.7	10.3
Hogs.....	243,764	254,786	206,159	9.1	7.9
Cattle and Calves.....	56,595	72,983	62,857	2.6	2.4
Sheep and Lambs.....	135	150	108	*	*
Dairy Products.....	149,392	161,912	174,386	5.7	6.7
Milk Wholesale.....	145,950	158,470	171,130	5.6	6.5
Milk Retail.....	3,442	3,442	3,256	.1	.1
Poultry and Eggs.....	545,686	572,714	617,782	20.4	23.6
Broiler.....	286,147	296,173	322,476	10.5	12.3
Eggs.....	144,125	154,751	162,285	5.5	6.2
Turkeys.....	89,994	99,365	110,062	3.5	4.2
Chickens, Farm.....	17,070	13,600	13,549	.5	.5
Miscellaneous Poultry <u>6/</u>	8,350	8,825	9,410	.3	.4
Miscellaneous Livestock.....	5,337	5,589	6,535	.2	.2
Honey.....	2,402	2,928	3,947	.1	.2
Beeswax.....	89	59	135	*	*
Wool.....	28	40	38	*	*
Other Misc. Livestock <u>7/</u>	2,818	2,562	2,415	.1	.1

(See Footnotes on Bottom of Page 5)

JUNE SLAUGHTER IN N. C. DOWN

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during June 1978 totaled 46.6 million pounds live weight, a decline of 5 percent from June 1977. The number of head slaughtered decreased 3 percent to 172,200.

Cattle slaughtered were down 18 percent to 10.7 million pounds live weight. Calf slaughter increased 19 percent to 127,000 pounds live weight. Hog kill, at 35.8 million pounds live weight, decreased 1 percent.

The average live weight per head for cattle slaughtered during June was 907 pounds, up 20 pounds from June a year earlier. Calf slaughter at 723

pounds live weight increased 57 pounds above the previous year. Hogs, at 224 pounds, were up 2 pounds above June 1977.

Red meat production in North Carolina during June 1978 at 31.0 million pounds, was 6 percent below June 1977.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in June 1978 totaled 3.08 billion pounds, down 7 percent from June 1977. January-June total red meat output at 19.0 billion pounds was 2 percent below last year...change by individual components: beef, down 3 percent; veal, down 16; pork, virtually no change; lamb and mutton, down 14 percent.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER ^{1/}

SPECIES	JUNE				JANUARY THROUGH JUNE			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
NORTH CAROLINA								
	Thous. Head		Thous. Lbs.		Thous. Head		Thous. Lbs.	
Cattle	14.7	11.8	13,062	10,676	93.8	82.0	83,006	72,711
Calves	.5	.5	107	127	3.7	2.9	815	771
Sheep & Lambs	.1	.1	5	12	.2	.4	20	38
Hogs	162.7	159.8	36,088	35,776	968.4	970.9	214,990	215,696
TOTAL	178.0	172.2	49,262	46,591	1066.1	1056.2	298,831	289,216
UNITED STATES								
	Million Head		Million Lbs.		Million Head		Million Lbs.	
Cattle	3.6	3.3	3,711	3,342	20.7	20.1	21,319	20,643
Calves	.4	.3	115	79	2.7	2.3	674	555
Sheep & Lambs	.6	.5	59	51	3.2	2.7	353	303
Hogs	6.0	6.0	1,432	1,467	38.5	38.4	9,082	9,122
TOTAL	10.6	10.1	5,317	4,939	65.1	63.5	31,428	30,623

^{1/} Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

^{1/} Preliminary. ^{2/} Except for forest products and greenhouse and nursery products, cash receipts are shown only for those commodities for which the Department publishes estimates of the value of production. All other estimates, while included in commodity group total, are combined as appropriate in the "Other Livestock", "Miscellaneous Vegetables", "Other Berries", "Other Fruits and Nuts", or "Other Crops" items. ^{3/} Processing included. ^{4/} Cherries, figs, plums and prunes, walnuts, chestnuts, blackberries, blueberries, raspberries and other. ^{5/} Popcorn, other grains, crimson clover seed, ladino clover seed, red clover seed, fescue seed, orchardgrass seed, redtop seed, ryegrass seed, vetch seed, millet, other seeds and other field crops. ^{6/} Includes turkey eggs and other poultry. ^{7/} Includes horses and mules and other miscellaneous livestock. *Less than 0.05 percent. Percent may not be accurate to 0.1 in last place because of method of machine computations.

**CATTLE AND CALVES: Number By Classes and Calf Crop,
United States, July 1, 1976-78**

CLASS	1976	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousand Head</i>			<i>Percent</i>
Cattle and Calves.....	133,659	130,195	121,575	93
Cows and Heifers That Have Calved.	53,940	52,171	48,482	93
Beef Cows.....	42,882	41,175	37,635	91
Milk Cows.....	11,058	10,996	10,847	99
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over.....	18,919	18,356	18,052	98
For Beef Cow Replacement.....	6,527	5,839	5,362	92
For Milk Cow Replacement.....	3,942	4,005	3,938	98
Other Heifers.....	8,450	8,512	8,752	103
Steers 500 Pounds and Over.....	18,671	18,652	17,818	96
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over.....	2,759	2,685	2,456	91
Heifers, Steers, and Bulls Under 500 Pounds.....	39,370	38,331	34,767	91
Calf Crop <u>1/</u>	47,440	46,057	44,138	96

1/ For 1978, the calf crop is the number of calves born before July 1 plus the number expected to be born after July 1.

PRODUCTION OF FROZEN DAIRY PRODUCTS DOWN

Production of frozen dairy products (ice cream, sherbet, milk, and ice milk) in North Carolina totaled 36,385,000 gallons in 1977, a decrease of 4 percent from the 37,977,000 pro-

duced during 1976. Cottage cheese curd was down 10,000 pounds to 4,360,000 in 1977. Creamed cottage cheese production increased 706,000 pounds to 6,872,000 pounds in 1977.

**PRODUCTION OF MANUFACTURED DAIRY PRODUCTS
NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES**

YEAR	Ice Cream	Sherbet Milk	Ice Milk	Water Ices	Ice Cream Mix	All Other Mix <u>1/</u>	Cottage Cheese Curd	Cottage Cheese Creamed <u>2/</u>
	Thousand Gallons					Thousand Pounds		
NORTH CAROLINA								
1972	22,016	1,443	8,974	2,661	8,474	5,902	8,503	12,131
1973	23,207	1,451	9,278	2,154	9,057	5,977	8,129	11,548
1974	24,335	1,366	11,523	1,591	9,519	7,489	4,045	5,505
1975	27,582	1,494	9,952	2,428	13,529	7,114	3,660	6,361
1976	27,966	1,486	8,525	2,422	13,442	6,218	4,370	6,166
1977 <u>3/</u>	26,462	1,769	8,154	1,485	13,229	6,350	4,360	6,872
UNITED STATES								
1972	765,586	50,017	290,806	39,939	397,229	213,216	784,204	1,115,092
1973	773,674	53,231	291,698	41,668	397,986	215,536	763,016	1,086,222
1974	781,971	49,932	296,100	42,771	403,216	216,250	689,660	855,682
1975	836,552	48,542	298,789	38,230	431,190	217,108	700,975	990,985
1976	818,241	49,589	286,176	38,001	420,159	211,406	711,141	1,009,969
1977 <u>3/</u>	804,132	49,970	293,300	37,226	410,263	217,809	703,533	1,016,653

1/ Includes ice milk and milk sherbet mix. 2/ Includes low fat cottage cheese.

3/ Preliminary.

CHICK HATCH UP

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 35.0 million broiler-type chicks during June 1978, an increase of 4 percent from June a year earlier. Egg-type chicks hatched, at 1.1 million is up 74 percent above June 1977.

For the Nation, the June hatch of broiler-type chicks at 346.7 million

was 8 percent more than June 1977. Egg-type chickshatched totaled 45.5 million, a 2 percent increase above June 1977. The number of eggs in incubators on July 1, 1978 for the South Atlantic States increased 11 percent for broiler-type chicks and declined 1 percent for egg-type.

CHICKS HATCHED -- JUNE

STATE	BROILER-TYPE		1978 As % Of 1977	EGG-TYPE		1978 As % Of 1977
	1977	1978		1977	1978	
	Thousands					
NORTH CAROLINA	33,587	34,991	104	650	1,130	174
South Carolina	2,680	3,283	123	804	863	107
Georgia	45,210	49,982	111	3,825	4,001	105
Florida	7,701	8,257	107	3,215	3,151	98
Delaware	15,571	16,259	104	1/	1/	-
Maryland	18,541	19,674	106	1/	1/	-
Virginia	9,545	10,422	109	1,065	542	51
UNITED STATES	320,115	346,700	108	44,700	45,510	102

1/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

U. S. TURKEY HATCH VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED

The hatch of 18.8 million turkey poults during June was virtually the same as a year ago. The hatch of heavy breeds was up 3 percent from June 1977, but the light breed poult hatch was down 41 percent.

The 22.4 million turkey eggs in incubators on July 1, 1978 were down 2 percent from a year earlier. Eggs set

for heavy breed turkeys were up 3 percent from last year, but light breeds were down 48 percent.

Heavy breed turkeys in flocks tested for pullorum-typhoid totaled 206 thousand, an increase of 45 percent from June 1977. Testings for July through June were 2.60 million, an increase of 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

POULTS HATCHED -- JUNE

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS (U.S.)	HEAVY BREEDS <i>1/</i>		LIGHT BREEDS <i>2/</i>		ALL BREEDS	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
<i>Thousands</i>						
North Atlantic	411	301	68	11	479	312
East North Central	2,627	2,504	61	36	2,688	2,540
West North Central	6,023	6,382	740	449	6,763	6,831
South Atlantic	2,946	3,165	305	219	3,251	3,384
South Central	2,087	1,993	0	0	2,087	1,993
West	3,519	3,754	37	5	3,556	3,759
UNITED STATES	17,613	18,099	1,211	720	18,824	18,819

1/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is 12 pounds or over.

2/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is under 12 pounds.

JUNE EGG PRODUCTION RISES

Egg production on North Carolina farms during June 1978 is estimated at 278 million, an increase of 18 percent from June a year earlier. The number of hens and pullets of laying age on

hand during the month was 13.6 million compared to 12.0 million in June 1977. The rate of lay per 100 layers during June averaged 2,046, an increase of 6 eggs from June last year.

NUMBER OF LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- JUNE

STATE	LAYERS ON HAND		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		TOTAL EGGS PRODUCED	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
NORTH CAROLINA	11,950	13,575	1,977	2,046	236	278
Virginia	3,266	3,444	1,920	1,938	63	67
South Carolina	5,025	5,565	2,112	2,034	106	113
Georgia	22,120	23,750	1,938	2,001	429	475
Florida	12,293	11,964	1,923	1,980	236	237
UNITED STATES	266,639	271,960	1,951	1,979	5,201	5,382

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GOOD WEATHER AIDS CROP PROSPECTS

Warm temperatures and favorable showers benefited crop prospects substantially during the month of July. Most areas of the State are enjoying adequate soil moisture conditions this season. As of August 19, soil moisture was rated 8% short, 79% adequate and 3% surplus, which is a sharp divergence from last years' drought. Generally, crop prospects are mostly good or all crops.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO harvest came into the center of attention the last half of July as priming became quite active. By August 19, the crop was 0 percent harvested, about 10 percent behind normal as wet weather delayed maturity. The condition of the crop is mostly good.

Summer rains improved CORN prospects and a good crop is expected. Corn was in mostly good condition statewide as of August 19. It was rated 17% fair, 73% good and 10% excellent in the major producing Coastal plains.

(See Weather, Page 2)

MORE SOYBEANS

North Carolina soybean production is forecast at 38.4 million bushels, 2 percent more than last year. Acres or harvest, at 1.6 million, is up from the 1.3 million acres harvested in 1977. Yield per acre also increased, and at an estimated 24 bushels, is 2 bushels higher than a year earlier.

U. S. soybean production is estimated at a record high 1.77 billion bushels, 3 percent larger than the 1977 crop. Although yield per acre was down 1.7 bushels to 27.9, a jump of 9 percent in acres harvested to 63.3 million acres pushed production up to the record level.

INCREASE EXPECTED IN FLUE-CURED TOBACCO CROP

Flue-cured tobacco production in North Carolina is forecast at 793.6 million pounds, 4 percent greater than the July 1, 1978 forecast and 10 percent above last year's production of 721.0 million pounds. Acres to be harvested are forecast at 390,000, an increase of 2 percent from a year ago. An average yield of 2,035 pounds per acre is expected which is 152 pounds per acre more than the 1977 yield of 1,883 pounds. The eastern and border belts show a substantial increase in production from last year. The old & middle belts indicate a slight decrease in production due to a decline in acreage.

U. S. flue-cured tobacco production is forecast at 1.2 billion pounds, up 6 percent from 1977. Yield per acre, at 2,033 pounds, is 116 pounds greater than last year. Harvested acres are down slightly from a year ago to 588,520.

N. C. BURLEY PRODUCTION DOWN

Burley tobacco production in the Tar Heel state is estimated at 19.6 million pounds, 17 percent less than 1977. Yield per acre, at 2,300 pounds, is 150 pounds below a year earlier. Harvested acres also declined to 8,500 from 9,600 acres in 1977.

(See Tobacco, Page 2)

CORN PRODUCTION BOUNCES BACK

The North Carolina corn crop is estimated at 121.7 million bushels, a substantial recovery from the low 86.2 million bushels produced in 1977. Acres to be harvested for grain are forecast at 1.5 million, 9 percent less than were harvested in 1977. The August 1 yield forecast of 79 bushels

(See Corn, Page 3)

GRAPE PRODUCTION UP

North Carolina grape production is forecast at 4,700 tons, 1 percent more than 1977 and 3 percent more than 1976.

U. S. production is expected to be 4.6 million tons, an increase of 7 percent from last year and 5 percent from 1976.

WEATHER *(Cont'd. From Page 1)*

SOYBEAN crop condition averaged 4% fair, 85% good and 11% excellent as of August 19.

PEANUTS AND COTTON improved in response to the excellent weather. Both crops were rated mostly good in the major producing areas.

SWEET POTATOES were in mostly good shape as light harvest got under-way in early August. APPLE harvest started to pick up in August. APPLE conditions are also mostly good in the State and the heavy producing mountain areas.

TOBACCO *(Cont'd. From Page 1)*

For the nation burley production dropped 2 percent from 1977 to an estimated 607.4 million pounds. However, yield per acre was up 2 percent to 2,342. Acres for harvest are forecast at 259,300, down from the 268,500 acres harvested in 1977.

GRAIN STORAGE CAPACITY

There are facilities to store more than 16.9 billion bushels of grain in the United States, according to a preliminary report of a survey conducted by two agencies of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The total grain storage capacity as of April 1, 1978 includes 9.9 billion bushels on-farm and almost 7 billion bushels off-farm commercial storage. On-farm storage includes 8.1 billion bushels of space to store shelled corn, other grain and oil seeds, 1.1 billion bushels for permanent ear corn storage and 0.7 billion bushels for wet storage of high moisture grain.

On-farm storage data were gathered by ASCS. Commercial facilities were surveyed jointly by ASCS and USDA's Economics, Statistics and Cooperatives Service.

This same survey indicated that North Carolina has the capacity to store 196.3 million bushels of grain. Of this total, 126.1 million bushels would be on farm storage and 70.2 million bushels are off-farm commercial storage.

The largest share of the on-farm storage, 100.9 million bushels, is for shelled corn, other grains, and oil seeds. Permanent ear corn storage uses 17.0 million bushels of the capacity and the remaining 8.1 million bushel storage is used for high moisture grains.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO, BY TYPE, AUGUST 1, 1978

STATE	TYPE	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
		<i>Thousands</i>			<i>Pounds</i>			<i>Thousand Pounds</i>		
Virginia	11	70.0	61.0	56.0	1,780	1,795	1,800	124,600	109,495	100,800
N. C.	11	185.0	160.0	155.0	1,830	1,770	1,800	338,550	283,200	279,000
N. C.	12	203.0	177.0	186.0	2,140	1,955	2,200	434,420	346,035	409,200
N. C.	13	51.0	46.0	49.0	2,160	1,995	2,150	110,160	91,770	105,350
N.C. Total	11-13	439.0	383.0	390.0	2,012	1,883	2,035	883,130	721,005	793,550
S. C.	13	75.0	68.0	70.0	2,045	2,040	2,100	153,375	138,720	147,000
Georgia	14	68.0	65.0	61.0	1,820	2,075	2,150	123,760	134,875	131,150
Florida	14	14.0	11.7	11.0	2,160	2,100	2,100	30,240	24,570	23,100
Alabama	14	.6	.6	.5	1,800	1,900	1,800	1,152	1,045	900
U.S. TOTAL	11-14	666.6	589.3	588.5	1,974	1,917	2,033	1,316,257	1,129,710	1,196,500

N. C. PEANUT CROP DOWN SLIGHTLY

The North Carolina peanut crop is forecast at 431.6 million pounds, 3% less than last year's production. The expected yield of 2,600 pounds per acre is 75 pounds below the 1977 average yield. Acreage for harvest at 166,000 is the same as a year earlier. The crop is in mostly good condition following an unusually late planting season.

Peanut production in the U. S. is forecast at 3.89 billion pounds (1.76 million metric tons net weight), 4 percent above the 3.73 billion pounds (1.69 million MT) produced in 1977. The indicated yield per acre of 2565 pounds is 108 pounds above last year. Acreage to be harvested this year totals 1.52 million acres (613 thousand hectares), virtually the same as 1977.

Peanut condition is good in Alabama. Dry weather in early July has been overcome by recent rains. The Georgia crop is in good condition and is blooming and pegging freely. Both diseases and insects appear to be under control. The Florida crop is making good progress after a slow start. Moisture has been ample and vines are growing rapidly. Recent rains in South Carolina have helped the crop considerably after a hot, dry July.

SUMMER POTATO PRODUCTION STABLE

The North Carolina summer Irish potato crop is expected to total 500,000 cwt., the same as last years production. Acres for harvest, at 4,000, are unchanged from 1977. Estimated yield is also unchanged and is set at 125 cwt. per acre.

The U. S. summer crop is estimated to be 21.2 million cwt., down 4 percent from last year. Yield per acre is down 3 cwt. to 188 cwt. Acreage for harvest decreased 2 percent from a year ago to 112,700 acres.

YAM OUTPUT INCREASES

Sweet potato production for the Tar Heel state is forecast at 4,995,000 cwt., an increase of 12 percent from last year. Acres for harvest, at 37,000, also rose 12 percent from 1977. Yield per acre was unchanged at 135 cwt.

U. S. yam production increased from last year also. Production at 13.4 million is up 8 percent. Yield per acre rose from 110 cwt. in 1977 to 113 cwt. Acres for harvest, at 118,500, are 5 percent greater than those harvested last year.

CORN (Cont'd. From Page 1)

per acre is back to the normal range after last years low 51 bushels, and accounts mainly for the bounce back in production. District estimates for harvested acres, yield per acre, and production are shown below.

The nations corn production is forecast at 6.5 billion bushels, an increase of 2 percent from 1977. Yield per acre is estimated at 96.1 bushels, up from 91.0 bushels last year. Acres for grain harvest are expected to total 67.7 million, a drop of 3 percent from a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA CORN ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION BY DISTRICTS, AUGUST 1, 1978 WITH COMPARISONS

DISTRICT	Area Harvested			Yield Per Acre			Production		
	1976	1977	Ind. 1978	1976	1977	Ind. 1978	1976	1977	Ind. 1978
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>			<i>Bushels</i>			<i>1,000 Bushels</i>		
N. Mountain	48.9	43.0	37.0	63.8	44.1	68	3,119	1,895	2,515
W. Mountain	33.8	29.0	28.0	67.3	53.7	67	2,275	1,557	1,875
N. Piedmont	118.4	106.0	97.0	45.1	29.6	58	5,345	3,135	5,625
C. Piedmont	101.5	85.0	90.0	57.5	26.9	64	5,840	2,290	5,760
S. Piedmont	88.4	68.0	68.0	71.6	27.2	63	6,331	1,852	4,285
N. Coastal	467.8	415.0	385.0	90.1	71.2	90	42,161	29,536	34,650
C. Coastal	565.9	524.0	455.0	85.0	50.0	82	48,092	26,212	37,310
S. Coastal	455.3	420.0	380.0	81.8	46.9	78	37,237	19,713	29,640
N. CAROLINA	1,880.0	1,690.0	1,540.0	80.0	51.0	79	150,400	86,190	121,660

NORTH CAROLINA: Estimated Acreage, Yield and Production Of Crops, August 1, 1978, With Comparisons

CROPS	UNIT	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
Thousands										
Corn for Grain.....	Bu.	1,880	1,690	1,540	80.0	51.0	79.0	150,400	86,190	121,660
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	240	200	175	29.0	30.0	34.0	6,960	6,000	5,950
Oats.....	Bu.	80	75	90	47.0	42.0	53.0	3,760	3,150	4,770
Barley.....	Bu.	60	55	59	39.0	40.0	51.0	2,340	2,200	3,009
Rye.....	Bu.	20	21	26	19.0	19.0	21.0	380	399	546
Tobacco: Flue-Cured.....	Lb.	439.0	383.0	390.0	2,012	1,883	2,035	883,130	721,005	793,550
Burley.....	Lb.	9.0	9.6	8.5	2,200	2,450	2,300	19,800	23,520	19,550
All Types.....	Lb.	448.0	392.6	398.5	2,015	1,896	2,040	902,930	744,525	813,100
Cotton <u>L</u> /.....	Lb.	71	83	41	489	305	410	72	53	35
Sorghum for Grain.....	Bu.	90	72	79	51.0	37.0	52.0	4,590	2,664	4,108
Irish Potatoes: Spring..	Cwt.	13.0	13.4	13.0	145	165	145	1,885	2,211	1,885
Summer..	Cwt.	4.0	4.0	4.0	125	125	125	500	500	500
All.....	Cwt.	17.0	17.4	17.0	140	156	140	2,385	2,711	2,385
Sweet Potatoes.....	Cwt.	33.0	33.0	37.0	130	135	135	4,290	4,455	4,995
Soybeans for Beans.....	Bu.	1,120	1,320	1,600	22.0	22.0	24.0	24,640	29,040	38,400
Peanuts for Nuts.....	Lb.	166	166	166	2,655	2,675	2,600	440,730	444,050	431,600
Hay: Alfalfa & Mixtures.	Ton	15	16	17	2.70	2.30	2.70	41	37	46
All Other.....	Ton	335	334	343	1.40	1.45	1.55	469	484	532
All Kinds.....	Ton	350	350	360	1.46	1.49	1.61	510	521	578
Pasture Condition <u>2</u> /.....	%	<u>3</u> / 84	49	82	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peaches, All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,000	35,000	40,000
Apples, Commercial.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	265,000	270,000	295,000
Grapes, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.58	4.65	4.70

L/ Production in 480 lb. NWB. 2/ Data shown for pastures represent condition, not acres. 3/ 1967-76 average condition on August 1.

UNITED STATES: Estimated Acreage, Yield and Production Of Crops, August 1, 1978, With Comparisons

CROPS	UNIT	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
		Thousands								
Corn for Grain.....	Bu.	71,300	70,006	67,694	87.9	91.0	96.1	6,266,359	6,370,624	6,503,190
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	49,460	48,419	38,846	31.5	31.5	32.1	1,559,923	1,526,713	1,248,405
Wheat, All.....	Bu.	70,771	66,216	56,532	30.3	30.6	32.1	2,142,362	2,025,793	1,816,960
Oats.....	Bu.	11,946	13,447	11,951	45.7	55.6	53.3	546,315	747,914	636,785
Barley.....	Bu.	8,297	9,490	9,106	44.9	43.8	48.4	372,461	415,803	440,439
Rye.....	Bu.	721	694	1,070	20.7	24.5	26.7	14,951	16,998	28,567
Tobacco: Flue-cured.....	Lb.	666.6	589.3	588.5	1,974	1,917	2,033	1,316,257	1,129,710	1,196,500
Burley.....	Lb.	285.8	268.5	259.3	2,376	2,298	2,342	678,976	616,929	607,385
All Types.....	Lb.	1,044.5	957.7	945.0	2,045	1,997	2,077	2,135,829	1,912,417	1,962,920
Cotton <u>L</u> /.....	Lb.	10,914	13,279	12,282	465	520	462	10,581	14,389	11,820
Sorghum for Grain.....	Bu.	14,723	14,065	13,446	48.9	56.2	53.0	719,817	790,647	712,443
Irish Potatoes: Spring..	Cwt.	98.4	91.4	90.7	251	250	199	24,722	22,870	18,028
Summer..	Cwt.	118.7	115.2	112.7	190	191	188	22,541	21,982	21,211
Sweet Potatoes.....	Cwt.	117.8	112.4	118.5	114	110	113	13,432	12,395	13,432
Soybeans for Beans.....	Bu.	49,358	57,911	63,268	26.1	29.6	27.9	1,287,560	1,716,334	1,765,024
Peanuts for Nuts.....	Lb.	1,522	1,516	1,516	2,465	2,457	2,565	3,750,890	3,726,015	3,888,170
Hay: Alfalfa & Mixtures.	Ton	26,651	27,085	27,559	2.62	2.97	3.07	69,828	80,430	84,485
All Other.....	Ton	33,660	33,408	33,695	1.49	1.52	1.59	50,178	50,627	53,533
All Kinds.....	Ton	60,311	60,493	61,254	1.99	2.17	2.25	120,006	131,057	138,018
Pasture Condition <u>L</u> /....	%	<u>3</u> / 78	64	77	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peaches, All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,020,000	2,991,000	2,608,600
Apples, Commercial.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,479,200	6,655,600	7,356,000
Grapes, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,398	4,298	4,613

L/ U. S. includes American-Pima. Production in 480-lb. NMB. 2/ Data shown for pastures represent condition, not acres.
3/ 1967-76 average condition on August 1.

N. C. WHEAT DOWN, OTHER SMALL GRAINS RISE

Winter wheat production in North Carolina is estimated at 5,950,000 bushels, a slight decrease from a year earlier. The decline in production was brought about by a drop in harvested acres from 200,000 last year to 175,000 this year. Yield per acre increased 4 bushels from a year ago to 34 bushels.

U. S. winter wheat production also dropped from last year. Production is set at 1.2 billion bushels, down 18% from 1977. Yield per acre is up slightly to 32.1 bushels. Harvested acreage, at 38,846,000, is 20% below 1977.

Total oats produced in N. C. is estimated at 4,770,000 bushels, up 51% from last year. Yield per acre at 53 bushels is way above last year's 42 bushels. Acreage for harvest at 90,000 is above a year ago by 15,000 acres.

The nation's oat production decreased 15% from last year to 636.8 million bushels. Yield per acre decreased 2.3 bushels from 1977 to 53.3 bushels. Harvested acres also declined to 12.0 million from 13.4 acres a year earlier.

Barley production is set at 3.0 million bushels in North Carolina, up 37% from a year earlier. The increase in production was brought about by an 11 bushel increase in yield per acre to 51 bushels. Acres for harvest rose 4,000 acres to 59,000.

U. S. barley production also increased since last year. Production is set at 440.4 million bushels, up from 415.8 million bushels in 1977. Acres for harvest at 9.1 million acres are down 4% from 1977. Yield per acre, however, increased to 48.4 bushels from 43.8 bushels last year.

Rye production in the Tar Heel state is up 37% from 1977 to 546,000 bushels. An increase in acreage from 21,000 a year ago to 26,000 this year greatly influenced the production. Yield per acre at 21 bushels increased 2 bushels from last year.

Production of rye in the U. S. at 28.6 million bushels is 68% greater than 1977 production. A tremendous increase in harvested acres from 694,000 in 1977 to 1,070,000 in 1978 was responsible for this large jump in production.

FRESH MARKET VEGETABLES

Growers in North Carolina harvested an estimated 3,500 acres of cucumbers in the spring quarter, up 500 acres from 1977. Yield per acre declined this year to 40 cwt., down from the 70 cwt. per acre estimated for 1977. Production is set at 140,000 cwt. for the spring quarter, down 70,000 cwt. from a year earlier. With an average price per cwt. of \$16.20, value totaled \$2,268,000, up 54 percent from a year earlier.

U. S. spring cucumber production is placed at 2,241,000 cwt. This is 1 percent below 1977. Harvested area totaled 19.4 thousand acres, up 3 percent from last year. Yield per acre declined to 116 cwt. from 120 a year earlier. The total value for the spring quarter is \$33,707,000, up 58 percent from 1977.

The spring snap bean crop in North Carolina was harvested from an estimated 2,500 acres, down 200 acres from 1977. Yield per acre dropped 2 cwt. from last year to 22 cwt. Production for the spring quarter was placed at 55,000 cwt., down 15% from a year earlier. Prices received averaged \$27.11 per cwt. The total value of production is \$1,491,000, up 9 percent from last year.

U. S. spring acreage for snap beans is set at 21,250, down 6 percent from a year earlier. Yield averaged 35 cwt. per acre, down 1 cwt. per acre from last year. Production for the spring quarter is estimated at 734,000 cwt., 10 percent less than 1977's spring output. Due to a higher average price, total value increased 12% to \$17,713,000.

Tar Heel growers harvested an estimated 2,300 acres of cabbage this spring, up 100 acres from the previous spring season. Yield per acre is estimated at 110 cwt. per acre, unchanged from 1977. Production is set at 253,000 cwt., up 10,000 cwt. from a year earlier. With an average price per cwt. at \$10.30, value totaled \$2,606,000 in North Carolina compared with \$941,000 the previous year.

The harvested area for the major cabbage producing states (California, Florida, Georgia, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas) is estimated at

(See Vegetables, Page 7)

LARGE APPLE CROP FORECAST

The 1978 commercial apple crop in North Carolina is forecast at 295 million pounds. Based on 42 pound equivalents, this poundage amounts to 7.02 million units. This year's forecast is 9% above the 1977 total production of 270 million pounds.

Red delicious continues to be the leading variety in the State. This variety is expected to produce 155 million pounds or 53% of the total 1978 production. Poundage for Red Delicious is up 10% from 1977. Golden delicious is the second largest producing variety and

production is forecast at 55 million pounds or 19% of the total production. Production of this variety is 2% above last year. Number three ranked Rome Beauty is expected to produce 50 million pounds. Poundage for Rome Beauty is up 14% from the 1977 estimate of 44 million pounds. Stayman is the fourth largest producing variety with 20 million pounds expected this year. This production is up 5 million pounds from last year. All remaining varieties combined in North Carolina are expected

(See Apples, Page 8)

N. C. MILK PRODUCTION DOWN IN JULY

Milk production in North Carolina during July 1978 was 131 million pounds, a decline of 2 percent from July a year earlier. The number of milk cows on farms during the month, including dry cows totaled 142,000 head, 7,000 less than July a year earlier. Production per cow at 925 pounds is up 25 pounds above the previous year.

U. S. BELOW PREVIOUS YEAR

July milk production totaled 10.6 billion pounds, down 1 percent from July 1977. Accumulated production for the first seven months of 1978 is down 1 percent from last year, but is 2 percent above the same period in 1976.

Production per cow averaged 977 pounds, 2 pounds more than a year earlier and 32 pounds more than July 1976. Total milk cows averaged 10.9 million head for July, off 1 percent from last year.

VEGETABLES (Cont'd. From Page 6)

17,900 acres, 4 percent above 1977. Yield per acre for the major producing states averaged 236 cwt., up 5 percent from 1977. Production of 4,227,000 cwt. was valued at \$40,592,000.

COTTON PRODUCTION OFF

The North Carolina cotton crop is off 34 percent from last year and is estimated at 35,000 bales. Although yield per acre is up 105 pounds to 410 pounds per acre, the acres for harvest have dropped 51 percent to 41,000 acres.

The Nation's cotton output is expected to drop also. Production is estimated at 11.8 million bales, a decline of 18 percent from last year. Yield per acre is down 58 pounds to 462 pounds while acres for harvest is estimated at 12.3 million, a decrease of 8 percent from a year earlier.

MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION--JULY 1978

STATE	Milk Cows On Farms \angle	Milk Per Cow	Milk Production	
			Pounds	1978 As % Of 1977
	Thousands	Pounds	Millions	Percent
NORTH CAROLINA.	142	925	131	98
Virginia.....	172	950	163	101
Maryland.....	134	960	129	97
Georgia.....	129	750	97	100
Florida.....	196	800	157	101
UNITED STATES..	10,851	977	10,598	99

\angle Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

to produce 15 million pounds.

The nation's 1978 Commercial apple production, as of August 1, is forecast at 7.36 billion pounds (3.34 million metric tons). This is 11 percent above the 1977 total and 14 percent higher than the freeze-damaged 1976 crop. Significant gains are expected in all regions of the country. Based on the August 1 forecast, the Eastern States will be up 8 percent from last season, the Central States will increase by 25 percent, and in the West output will be 7 percent higher than in 1977.

Red Delicious continues its long reign as the leading apple variety, accounting for 36 percent of the total crop. Other leading varieties and their percent of expected 1978 total produc-

tion are: Golden Delicious, 16 percent-McIntosh, 10 percent; Rome Beauty, 8 percent; Jonathan, 5 percent; and York Imperial, 4 percent. Together, these six varieties will comprise 79 percent of the 1978 U. S. commercial crop.

Production increases are expected for all the major varieties except Golden Delicious. The largest gains from 1977 are in store for R. I. Greening (up 29 percent, Rome Beauty (22 percent higher), Stayman (up 19 percent), and Red Delicious and Gravenstein (both 17 percent higher). In addition to the slight reduction in Golden Delicious, declines are also forecast for Yellow Newtown (off 19 percent), Northern Spy (down 4 percent), and Winesap (off slightly).

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U. S. RECORD TURKEY CROP EXPECTED

The 1978 turkey crop is expected to be at an all time record of 141 million head, one percent above the 1976 record of 140 million and 3 percent above last year.

Heavy breed turkeys are expected to total about 134 million head, up 7 percent from a year earlier. Light breed turkeys are expected to total about 7.62 million head, a 37 percent decrease from the number raised a year ago.

The number of turkey poults hatched from September 1977 through July 1978 was up 2 percent from the corresponding period a year earlier. Heavy breeds were up 7 percent but light breeds decreased 45 percent.

Minnesota leads all states with an expected 23.3 million turkeys raised this year, up 3 percent from 1977. North Carolina ranks second with 19.4 million, 17 percent more than last year. California is third with 16.4 million, followed by Arkansas with 11.8 million, Missouri with 11.4 million and Virginia with 9.17 million turkeys.

JULY EGG PRODUCTION UP

Egg production on North Carolina farms during July 1978 is 284 million, an estimated increase of 17 percent from July a year earlier. The number of hens and pullets of laying age on hand was 13.6 million in July compared to 12.3 million in July 1977. The rate of lay per 100 layers during July averaged 2,093, an increase of 109 eggs from July last year.

AUGUST PRICE INDEX RISES

The 'All Farm Products' index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets during August is 200 (1967 = 100), an increase of 2 points from July and 23 points from August 1977.

The August 'All Crops' index, at 196, rose 8 points from July. Tobacco was up 13 points while fruits dropped 21 points and grains dropped 10 points.

The 'Livestock and Livestock Products' index dropped 8 points from July. Poultry was down 18 points while meat animals rose 6 points and dairy index remained unchanged. (See Table, Page 2.)

EMERGENCY FEED PROGRAM PAYMENTS

TOTAL \$96 MILLION

USDA assistance for the first 6 months of the emergency feed program - Oct. 1 through March 31 - totaled nearly \$96 million and helped producers purchase up to 10.4 billion pounds of feed (185.6 million bushels, corn equivalent).

Under the emergency feed program, the Secretary of Agriculture may authorize financial aid to farmers when their livestock is threatened by conditions brought on by a natural disaster. Participants may be reimbursed up to 50 percent of the cost for feed purchased during the emergency period. This, however, may not exceed 2 cents per pound in terms of feed grain equivalent.

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DOWN 6 POINTS PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The August Index of Prices Received by Farmers decreased 6 points, nearly 3 percent, to 209 percent of its January-December 1967 average. Contributing most to the decrease since July were lower prices for broilers, corn, potatoes, cattle and apples. Higher prices for hogs, milk and eggs were partially offsetting. The index was 35 points (20 percent) above a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates for August 15 was 220, unchanged from mid-July. Production components of the index dropped 1 point ($\frac{1}{2}$ percent) but the family living component increased 2 points (1 percent). The August index was 19 points (9 percent) higher than a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	Aug. 15 1975	Aug. 15 1976	Aug. 15 1977	July 15 1978	Aug. 15 1978
NORTH CAROLINA					
Prices Received: All Farm Products....	<u>3/</u> 173	<u>3/</u> 178	177	<u>3/</u> 198	209
All Crops.....	<u>3/</u> 160	<u>3/</u> 175	<u>3/</u> 169	<u>3/</u> 188	190
Tobacco.....	<u>3/</u> 142	163	168	177	190
Cotton.....	184	242	-	-	-
Oil Bearing.....	<u>3/</u> 203	207	190	<u>3/</u> 218	218
Grains.....	217	205	<u>3/</u> 119	<u>3/</u> 178	168
Commercial Vegetables.....	<u>3/</u> 163	<u>3/</u> 161	<u>3/</u> 200	<u>3/</u> 234	241
Fruits.....	<u>3/</u> 163	<u>3/</u> 210	217	265	241
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	<u>3/</u> 196	<u>3/</u> 183	181	<u>3/</u> 215	209
Meat Animals.....	<u>3/</u> 230	<u>3/</u> 193	193	235	241
Poultry.....	191	184	180	217	191
Dairy.....	<u>3/</u> 161	<u>3/</u> 162	167	<u>3/</u> 176	177
UNITED STATES					
Prices Received, All Farm Products.....	<u>3/</u> 194	<u>3/</u> 186	<u>3/</u> 174	215	209
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services <u>1/</u> .	<u>3/</u> 184	<u>3/</u> 193	<u>3/</u> 201	220	220
Parity Ratio <u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 105	96	<u>3/</u> 87	98	98

1/ Including Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. 3/ Revised.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PRICES MIXED, FEED PRICES DOWN

Average prices received for crops by North Carolina farmers at local markets about mid-August were mixed compared to a month earlier. (See Table, page 3.) Corn was down 15 cents per bushel to \$2.32 and oats dropped 2 cents per bushel to \$1.15.

Prices received for livestock were also mixed. Beef cattle at \$41.70 per hundredweight, dropped 50 cents. Hogs and veal calves rose \$1.80 and \$2.50 per hundredweight respectively. Milk cows at \$410.00 per head increased \$20.00 above the previous month.

Prices the state's farmers had to

pay for feed during July were mostly lower. (See Table, Page 3.) Mixed dairy feed with 16 percent protein was down \$5.00 per ton to \$143.00, while feed with 32 percent protein remained unchanged. Chick starter and laying feed were both down from July, \$5.00 and \$7.00 per ton, respectively.

Broiler grower and turkey grower both remained unchanged from the July price. In the high protein feeds category, cottonseed meal (41 percent protein) and soybean meal (44 percent protein) decreased 50 cents per hundredweight from the previous month.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		Aug. 15 1977	July 15 1978	Aug. 15 1978*	Aug. 15 1977	July 15 1978	Aug. 15 1978*
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	1.127	1.163	1.245	1.161	1.279	1.318
Corn.....	Bu.	1.62	<u>2/</u> 2.47	2.32	1.63	2.16	1.99
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.13	2.80	2.79
Oats.....	Bu.	1.43	<u>2/</u> 1.17	1.15	.905	1.07	1.06
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	1.53	1.84	1.79
Sorghum Grains.	Cwt.	-	-	-	2.63	3.50	3.38
Soybeans.....	Bu.	-	<u>2/</u> 6.57	-	5.48	6.39	6.21
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.583	.565	.560
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.704	.786	.753
Hogs.....	Cwt.	42.90	46.30	48.10	42.80	45.20	47.50
Beef Cattle....	Cwt.	25.40	42.20	41.70	34.50	49.80	48.80
Veal Calves....	Cwt.	35.30	56.70	59.20	37.10	59.90	61.70
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	345.00	390.00	410.00	506.00	636.00	636.00
Com'l. Broilers	Lb.	.240	.335	.285	.241	.328	.267
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.360	.400	.380	.338	.418	.429
Eggs <u>1/</u>	Doz.	.629	.593	.627	.516	.483	.520
Milk, Whlse....	Cwt.	10.70	11.30	11.30	9.66	10.10	10.40
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	5.50	6.15	9.40	4.01	7.41	5.44
Sweet Potatoes.	Cwt.	10.70	-	12.50	11.90	16.70	13.10
Apples, Com'l..	Lb.	.117	-	.105	.127	<u>2/</u> .228	.150
Hay, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	52.50	49.20	49.00
Alfalfa Hay....	Ton	-	-	-	55.30	52.00	51.40
Other.....	Ton	-	-	-	46.20	42.60	43.30

1/ Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers. 2/ Revised. * Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	Aug. 15 1977	July 15 1978	Aug. 15 1978	Aug. 15 1977	July 15 1978	Aug. 15 1978
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed	-	-	-	125.00	131.00	127.00
14% Protein.....	134.00	148.00	143.00	132.00	139.00	136.00
16% Protein.....	-	144.00	139.00	-	149.00	144.00
18% Protein.....	-	152.00	145.00	-	149.00	143.00
20% Protein.....	199.00	196.00	196.00	193.00	204.00	197.00
32% Protein.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poultry Feeds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chick Starter.....	174.00	184.00	179.00	167.00	178.00	172.00
Broiler Grower....	183.00	179.00	179.00	164.00	170.00	169.00
Laying Feed <u>1/</u>	149.00	162.00	155.00	143.00	155.00	150.00
Turkey Grower <u>1/</u> ...	194.00	192.00	192.00	176.00	186.00	182.00
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bran.....	7.50	7.70	7.50	7.31	7.26	7.13
Middlings.....	7.10	7.30	7.20	7.15	7.06	7.05
Corn Meal.....	5.70	6.60	6.20	5.38	6.10	5.91
High Protein Feeds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonseed Meal 41%	13.50	13.00	12.50	11.50	10.60	10.50
Soybean Meal 44%...	13.00	12.50	12.00	11.80	11.90	11.50

1/ Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

FREQUENTLY CROPLAND LAND LOST TO CITIES

For More Information

Urban development claimed about 17 million acres of rural land between 1967 and 1975 according to a report recently released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Another 7 million acres of rural land were inundated by water in ponds, lakes, and reservoirs during the 8-year period. About one-third of this land was cropland at the time it was converted.

The study also reported that:

- Of the lands converted to urban and other uses during the 8-year period, about 8 million acres were "prime farmland";

- Croplands in the Northeast, Appalachian, Pacific, and Lake States are most likely to be threatened by other uses in the future;

- About 111 million acres not now in crops have high or medium potential for conversion to cropland if needed. Only 34.9 million acres, however, can be converted without applying conversion practices to avoid soil erosion hazards or water disposal problems.

In early 1978, an acre of U. S. farmland was valued at a record \$490 on the average, ranging from \$93 in New Mexico to \$2,051 in New Jersey. Breakdowns by State, plus other tables depicting the farm real estate scene, appear in Farm Real Estate Market Developments, CD-83. Write ESCS Publications, Room 0054-S, USDA, Wash., D. C. 20250. Free while supplies last.



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JULY SLAUGHTER IN N. C. DOWN

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during July 1978 totaled 37.3 million pounds live weight, a decline of 7 percent from July 1977. The number of head slaughtered decreased 3 percent to 137,400.

Cattle slaughtered were down 23 percent to 9.4 million pounds live weight. Calf slaughtered dropped 15 percent to 71,000 pounds live weight. Hog kill at 27.8 million pounds remained virtually unchanged from a year earlier.

The average live weight per head for cattle slaughtered during July was 917 pounds, up 40 pounds from July a year earlier. Calf slaughter at 242 pounds increased 37 pounds and hogs at

219 pounds remained unchanged from a year earlier.

Red meat production in North Carolina during July 1978 at 24.7 million pounds, was 7 percent below July 1977.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in July 1978 totaled 2.88 billion pounds, down 1 percent from July 1977. January-July total red meat output at 21.9 billion pounds was 2 percent below last year...change by individual components: beef, down 4 percent; veal, down 18; pork, up 2; lamb and mutton, down 13 percent. Commercial red meat production includes slaughter in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER 1/

SPECIES	JULY				JANUARY THROUGH JULY			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>	
NORTH CAROLINA								
Cattle	13.9	10.2	12,162	9,376	107.6	92.2	95,168	82,087
Calves	.4	.3	84	71	4.1	3.2	898	842
Sheep & Lambs	-	-	-	-	.3	.5	25	41
Hogs	127.3	126.9	27,840	27,814	1,095.7	1,097.8	242,830	243,509
TOTAL	141.6	137.4	40,086	37,261	1,207.7	1,193.7	338,921	326,479
UNITED STATES								
	<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	3.3	3.1	3,359	3,143	24.0	23.1	24,678	23,786
Calves	.4	.3	108	74	3.2	2.6	782	629
Sheep & Lambs	.5	.4	50	47	3.7	3.1	403	350
Hogs	5.1	5.6	1,221	1,355	43.6	44.1	10,303	10,477
TOTAL	9.3	9.4	4,738	4,619	74.5	72.9	36,166	35,242

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal Inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

CHICK HATCH UP

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 33.8 million broiler-type chicks during July 1978, an increase of 4 percent from July a year earlier. Egg-type chicks hatched at 430 thousand is down 50 percent from the 1977 level.

For the Nation, the July hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 338 million was 9 percent more than July 1977. Conversely, egg-type chicks hatched during July 1978 totaled 36.1 million, down 3 percent from a year ago.

CHICKS HATCHED -- JULY

STATE	BROILER- TYPE		1978 As % Of 1977	EGG- TYPE		1978 As % Of 1977
	1977	1978		1977	1978	
	Thousands					
NORTH CAROLINA	32,423	33,828	104	860	430	50
South Carolina	3,291	3,815	116	804	612	76
Georgia	45,350	49,472	109	3,424	3,340	98
Florida	7,375	8,262	112	2,553	2,874	113
Delaware	15,292	15,821	103	//	//	-
Maryland	17,398	20,211	116	//	//	-
Virginia	9,250	10,464	113	966	316	33
UNITED STATES	310,583	338,472	109	37,412	36,119	97

// Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

U. S. TURKEY HATCH DOWN

The 15.0 million turkey poults hatched during July 1978 was 3 percent below a year ago, heavy breeds were up 2 percent from July 1977 but light breed poults were down 48 percent.

The 14.2 million turkey eggs in incubators on August 1, 1978 were up 19 percent from a year earlier. Eggs

set for heavy breed turkeys were up 26 percent from last year but light breeds were down 29 percent.

Heavy breed turkeys in flocks tested for pullorum-typhoid totaled 162 thousand, an increase of 12 percent from July 1977.

POULTS HATCHED -- JULY

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS (U.S.)	HEAVY BREEDS 1/		LIGHT BREEDS 2/		ALL BREEDS	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
<i>Thousands</i>						
North Atlantic	316	274	56	9	372	283
East North Central	1,968	1,797	77	14	2,045	1,811
West North Central	3,955	4,792	782	466	4,737	5,258
South Atlantic	3,022	3,203	371	207	3,393	3,410
South Central	1,517	1,285	0	0	1,517	1,285
West	3,299	2,977	70	5	3,369	2,982
UNITED STATES	14,077	14,328	1,356	701	15,433	15,029

1/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is 12 pounds or over.

2/ Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is under 12 pounds.

NUMBER OF LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- JULY

STATE	LAYERS ON HAND		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		TOTAL EGGS PRODUCED	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
NORTH CAROLINA	12,250	13,575	1,984	2,093	243	284
Virginia	3,353	3,540	1,941	1,987	65	70
South Carolina	4,975	5,488	2,062	2,058	103	113
Georgia	21,850	23,300	1,950	1,916	426	446
Florida	12,266	12,177	2,040	2,034	250	248
UNITED STATES	266,446	270,110	1,987	2,014	5,293	5,440

EXPORT PROSPECTS REMAIN FAVORABLE

The pace of U. S. agricultural exports has jumped appreciably this spring after a slow start last fall. The dollar value of exports in March through June was up 21 percent above a year earlier. Volume increased for most major commodities, including soybeans, soybean products, grains, cotton, and to-

bacco. Fiscal 1978 agricultural exports could total almost a tenth above fiscal 1977's record \$24 billion. Although current prospects favor continued export strength in fiscal 1979, U. S. exports will depend heavily on the progress of crops in major supplying and consuming markets of the world.

Paul E. Williams

Dan C. Tucker
Statistician In Charge

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N. C. 1978 CROP HIGHLIGHTS

Flue-cured tobacco production 11% above 1977.
Corn production 43% above last year.
Soybean production 32% above 1977.
Peanut production up 5%.
Cotton production down 34%.
Sweetpotato production up 16%.

U. S. 1978 CROP HIGHLIGHTS

Flue-cured production up 8%.
Record high corn production above last year by 7%.
Record high soybean production up 3% from last year.
Peanut production up 7%.
Cotton production down 22%.
Sweetpotato production up 11%.

FLUE-CURED PROSPECTS IMPROVE

Flue-cured tobacco production in North Carolina is forecast at 804 million pounds, 1% above the August 1 outlook and 11% greater than last year's production. The improvement from a month earlier was in the Old and Middle Belt and Border Belt where yields are expected to be up 50 pounds from the previous forecast. Growers expect to harvest 390,000 acres this season, 2% more than 1977. The average yield per acre is forecast at 2,061 pounds, 178 pounds more than the 1977 yield and 26 pounds higher than the August 1 forecast.

Flue-cured production in the United States is forecast at 1,217 million pounds, 8% above a year ago. The average yield per acre of 2,068 compares with 1,917 pounds last year.

LARGE CORN CROP FORECAST

North Carolina corn prospects improved during August. The current production forecast is 123 million bushels, up 1% from a month earlier and up 43% from 1977. The average yield per acre is forecast at 80 bushels, up 1 bushel from the August 1 estimate and up 29 bushels per acre from last year. See table on page 3 for acreage, yield and production forecasts for each crop reporting district. Also displayed on page 3 is a chart of corn production in N. C. from 1970 through 1978.

Production of corn for grain in the U. S. is forecast at a record 6.8 billion bushels, 5% above the August 1 forecast and 7% above the previous record set last year. Crop prospects as of September 1 indicate an average yield per acre of 100.3 bushels, up 9.3 bushels from 1977. Acreage intended for grain harvest is estimated at 68 million acres, down 3% from last year. See page 7 for additional information for some selected states.

PEANUT PRODUCTION UP FROM 1977

The Tar Heel peanut crop is placed at 465 million pounds, 5% above last year's crop. Average yield per acre at 2,800 pounds is 125 pounds per acre above 1977.

Peanut production in the U. S. is forecast at 4 billion pounds, up 2% from the August 1 forecast and 7% above the production last year. The indicated yield per acre of 2,628 pounds is up 171 pounds from last year. Acreage to be harvested for peanuts this year is 1.5 million acres, virtually unchanged from last year.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO, BY TYPE, SEPTEMBER 1, 1978

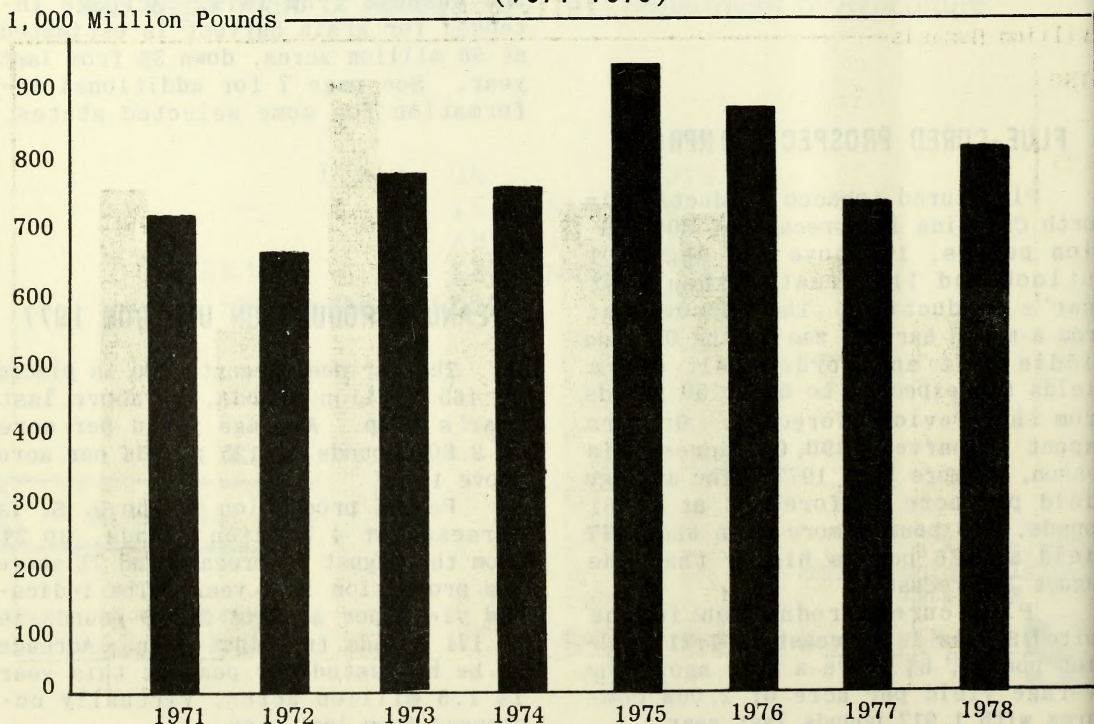
STATE	TYPE	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978	1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978	1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978
		<i>Thousands</i>			<i>Pounds</i>			<i>Thousand Pounds</i>		
Virginia	11	70.0	61.0	56.0	1,780	1,795	1,825	124,600	109,495	102,200
N. C.	11	185.0	160.0	155.0	1,830	1,770	1,850	338,550	283,200	286,750
N. C.	12	203.0	177.0	186.0	2,140	1,955	2,200	434,420	346,035	409,200
N. C.	13	51.0	46.0	49.0	2,160	1,995	2,200	110,160	91,770	107,800
N.C. Total	11-13	439.0	383.0	390.0	2,012	1,883	2,061	883,130	721,005	803,750
S. C.	13	75.0	68.0	70.0	2,045	2,040	2,150	153,375	138,720	150,500
Georgia	14	68.0	65.0	61.0	1,820	2,075	2,250	123,760	134,875	137,250
Florida	14	14.0	11.7	11.0	2,160	2,100	2,050	30,240	24,570	22,550
Alabama	14	.6	.6	.5	1,800	1,900	1,800	1,152	1,045	930
U.S. TOTAL	11-14	666.6	589.3	588.5	1,974	1,917	2,068	1,316,257	1,129,710	1,217,180

N. C. BURLEY CROP SMALLER

Burley production in the Tar Heel State is now expected to total 20 million pounds, 2% more than forecast a month earlier, but 15% less than last year's production. Expected yield at 2,350 pounds per acre is up 50 pounds

from August 1 but down 100 pounds from the average yield last year.

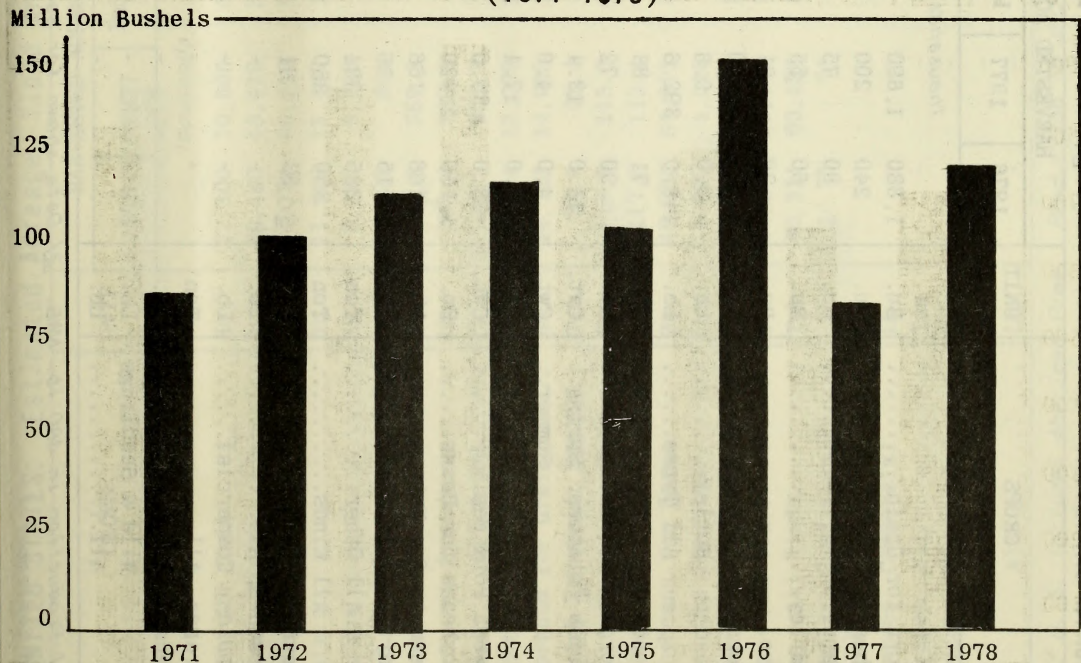
Burley output for the U. S. is forecast at 622 million pounds up 1% from 1977 and up 2% from the August 1 outlook.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO PRODUCTION
(1971-1978)

NORTH CAROLINA CORN ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION BY DISTRICTS, SEPTEMBER 1, 1978 WITH COMPARISONS

DISTRICT	Area Harvested			Yield Per Acre			Production		
	1976	1977	Ind. 1978	1976	1977	Ind. 1978	1976	1977	Ind. 1978
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>			<i>Bushels</i>			<i>1,000 Bushels</i>		
N. Mountain	48.9	43.0	37.0	63.8	44.1	72	3,119	1,895	2,665
W. Mountain	33.8	29.0	28.0	67.3	53.7	70	2,275	1,557	1,960
N. Piedmont	118.4	106.0	97.0	45.1	29.6	64	5,345	3,135	6,210
C. Piedmont	101.5	85.0	90.0	57.5	26.9	69	5,840	2,290	6,210
S. Piedmont	88.4	68.0	68.0	71.6	27.2	67	6,331	1,852	4,555
N. Coastal	467.8	415.0	385.0	90.1	71.2	90	42,161	29,536	34,650
C. Coastal	565.9	524.0	455.0	85.0	50.0	82	48,092	26,212	37,310
S. Coastal	455.3	420.0	380.0	81.8	46.9	78	37,237	19,713	29,640
N. Carolina	1,880.0	1,690.0	1,540.0	80.0	51.0	80	150,400	86,190	123,200

CORN FOR GRAIN PRODUCTION (1971-1978)



NORTH CAROLINA: Estimated Acreage, Yield and Production Of Crops, September 1, 1978, With Comparisons

CROPS	UNIT	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
		Thousands								
Corn for Grain.....	Bu.	1,880	1,690	1,540	80.0	51.0	80.0	150,400	86,190	123,200
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	240	200	175	29.0	30.0	34.0	6,960	6,000	5,950
Oats.....	Bu.	80	75	90	47.0	42.0	53.0	3,760	3,150	4,770
Barley.....	Bu.	60	55	59	39.0	40.0	51.0	2,340	2,200	3,009
Rye.....	Bu.	20	21	26	19.0	19.0	21.0	380	399	546
Tobacco: Flue-Cured....	Lb.	439.0	383.0	390.0	2,012	1,883	2,061	883,130	721,005	803,750
Burley.....	Lb.	9.0	9.6	8.5	2,200	2,450	2,350	19,800	23,520	19,975
All Types.....	Lb.	448.0	392.6	398.5	2,015	1,896	2,067	902,930	744,525	823,725
Cotton <u>L</u> /.....	Lb.	71	83	41	489	305	410	72	53	35
Sorghum for Grain.....	Bu.	90	72	79	51.0	37.0	52.0	4,590	2,664	4,108
Irish Potatoes: Spring..	Cwt.	13.0	13.4	13.0	145	165	145	1,885	2,211	1,885
Summer..	Cwt.	4.0	4.0	4.0	125	125	125	500	500	500
All.....	Cwt.	17.0	17.4	17.0	140	156	140	2,385	2,711	2,385
Sweet Potatoes.....	Cwt.	33.0	33.0	37.0	130	135	140	4,290	4,455	5,180
Soybeans for Beans.....	Bu.	1,120	1,320	1,600	22.0	22.0	24.0	24,640	29,040	38,400
Peanuts for Nuts.....	Lb.	166	166	166	2,655	2,675	2,800	440,730	444,050	464,800
Hay: Alfalfa & Mixtures.	Ton	15	16	17	2.70	2.30	2.70	41	37	46
All Other.....	Ton	335	334	343	1.40	1.45	1.55	469	484	532
All Kinds.....	Ton	350	350	360	1.46	1.49	1.61	510	521	578
Pasture Condition <u>L</u> /....	%	<u>3/</u> 83	61	87	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peaches, All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,000	35,000	40,000
Apples, Commercial.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	265,000	270,000	295,000
Grapes, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.58	4.65	4.70
Pecans, Improved.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,900	1,100	1,900
Wild & Seedlings	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	900	900	1,100
All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,800	2,000	3,000

L/ Production in 480 lb. NWB. 2/ Data shown for pastures represent condition, not acres. 3/ 1967-76 average condition on September 1.

UNITED STATES: Estimated Acreage, Yield and Production Of Crops, September 1, 1978, With Comparisons

CROPS	UNIT	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
		Thousands								
Corn for Grain.....	Bu.	71,300	70,006	67,794	87.9	91.0	100.3	6,266,359	6,370,624	6,797,650
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	49,460	48,419	38,846	31.5	31.5	32.0	1,559,923	1,526,713	1,243,685
Wheat, All.....	Bu.	70,771	66,216	56,532	30.3	30.6	31.6	2,142,362	2,025,793	1,787,740
Oats.....	Bu.	11,946	13,447	11,951	45.7	55.6	49.9	546,315	747,914	595,879
Barley.....	Bu.	8,297	9,490	9,106	44.9	43.8	48.1	372,461	415,803	438,429
Rye.....	Bu.	721	694	1,070	20.7	24.5	26.7	14,951	16,998	28,567
Tobacco: Flue-cured.....	Lb.	666.6	589.3	588.5	1,974	1,917	2,068	1,316,257	1,129,710	1,217,186
Burley.....	Lb.	285.8	268.5	259.3	2,376	2,298	2,400	678,976	616,929	622,290
All Types.....	Lb.	1,044.5	957.7	944.5	2,045	1,997	2,117	2,135,829	1,912,417	1,999,760
Cotton \angle	Lb.	10,914	13,279	12,282	465	520	436	10,581	14,389	11,155
Sorghum for Grain.....	Bu.	14,723	14,065	13,446	48.9	56.2	52.3	719,817	790,647	703,348
Irish Potatoes: Spring..	Cwt.	98.4	91.4	90.7	251	250	199	24,722	22,870	18,028
Summer..	Cwt.	118.7	115.2	112.2	190	191	187	22,541	21,982	21,013
Sweet Potatoes.....	Cwt.	117.8	112.4	118.5	114	110	116	13,432	12,395	13,700
Soybeans for Beans.....	Bu.	49,358	57,911	63,268	26.1	29.6	28.0	1,287,560	1,716,334	1,772,364
Peanuts for Nuts.....	Lb.	1,522	1,516	1,516	2,465	2,457	2,628	3,750,890	3,726,015	3,983,420
Hay: Alfalfa & Mixtures.	Ton	26,651	27,085	27,559	2.62	2.97	3.07	69,828	80,430	84,485
All Other.....	Ton	33,660	33,408	33,695	1.49	1.52	1.59	50,178	50,627	53,533
All Kinds.....	Ton	60,311	60,493	61,254	1.99	2.17	2.25	120,006	131,057	138,018
Pasture Condition \angle	%	\angle / 75	71	75	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peaches, All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,020,000	2,991,000	2,608,600
Apples, Commercial.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,479,200	6,655,600	7,356,000
Grapes, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,398	4,298	4,613
Pecans, Improved.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	77,300	137,900	142,400
Wild & Seedlings	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,800	98,700	78,900
All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	103,100	236,600	221,300

\angle / U. S. includes American-Pima. Production in 480-lb. NMB. \angle / Data shown for pastures represent condition, not acres.
 \angle / 1967-76 average condition on September 1.

N. C. COTTON PRODUCTION LOWEST ON RECORD

The North Carolina cotton crop is forecast at 35,000 bales, down sharply from the 1977 crop of 53,000 bales. This would be the lowest production on record for North Carolina. The lower production is the result of a sharp reduction in acres for harvest. Harvested acreage is estimated at 41,000 compared to 83,000 acres harvested in 1977. Yield is forecast at 410 pounds per acre, up 34% from last season.

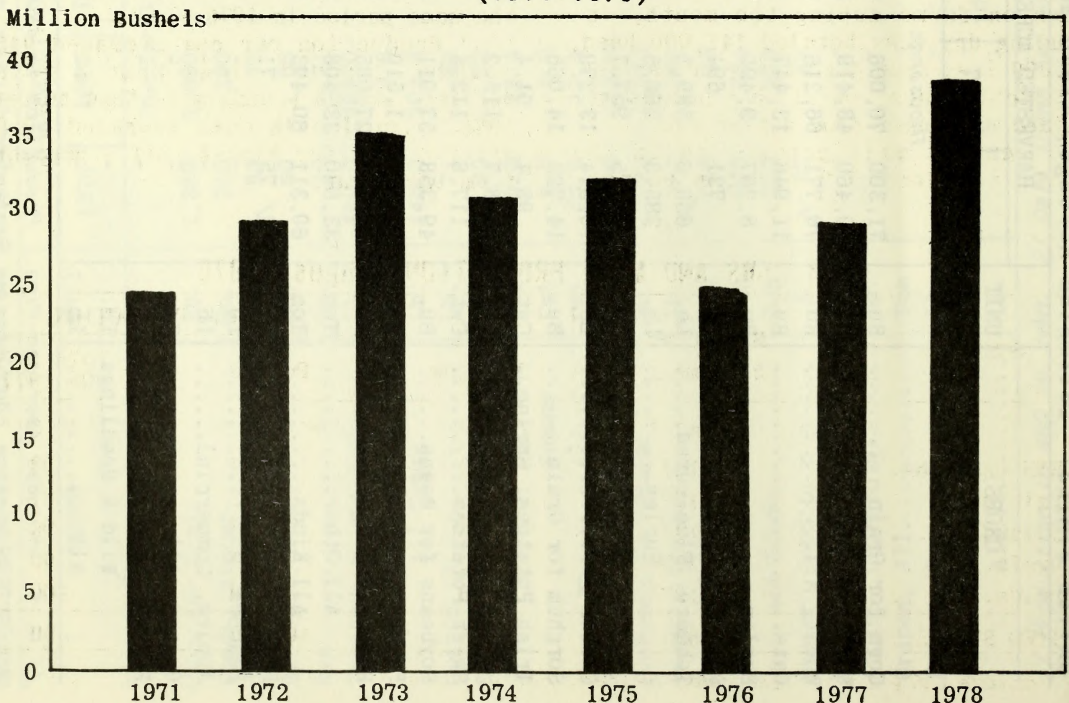
Cotton production is forecast at 11.2 million bales for the Nation, 22% below 1977 and 6% below the August 1 forecast. Expected production consists of 11 million bales of Upland and 79,400 bales of American-Pima. Growers expect to harvest 12.3 million acres of cotton this year, down 8% from last year. Average lint yield per harvested acre is forecast at 436 pounds, 84 pounds per acre below 1977.

RECORD HIGH SOYBEAN CROP

Soybean production in the State is expected to total a record high 38.4 million bushels, 32% more than 1977. The average yield is forecast at 24 bushels per acre, 2 bushels more than last years' average.

The U. S. soybean production is forecast at a record high 1.8 billion bushels, 3% larger than the 1977 crop. Yield prospects are set at 28 bushels per acre, down 1.6 bushels from last year.

SOYBEAN PRODUCTION (1971-1978)



CORN FOR GRAIN BY STATE, September 1, 1978

STATE	HARVESTED ACRES		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION	
	1977	Indicated 1978	1977	Indicated 1978	1977	Indicated 1978
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>		<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	
Georgia.....	1,000	1,400	24.0	50.0	24,000	70,000
Illinois.....	10,980	10,700	105.0	116.0	1,152,900	1,241,200
Indiana.....	6,210	5,900	102.0	107.0	633,420	631,300
Iowa.....	12,400	12,100	88.0	115.0	1,091,200	1,391,500
Kentucky.....	1,410	1,340	90.0	86.0	126,900	115,240
Minnesota.....	6,000	6,100	100.0	97.0	600,000	591,700
Nebraska.....	6,350	6,300	99.0	107.0	628,650	674,100
NORTH CAROLINA	1,690	1,540	51.0	80.0	86,190	123,200
Ohio.....	3,620	3,570	105.0	103.0	380,100	367,710
South Carolina	620	515	36.0	55.0	22,320	28,325
Tennessee.....	730	650	65.0	75.0	47,450	48,750
Virginia.....	560	580	55.0	86.0	30,800	49,880
Wisconsin.....	2,750	2,500	104.0	94.0	286,000	235,000
UNITED STATES.	70,006	67,794	91.0	100.3	6,370,624	6,797,650

MILK PRODUCTION DOWN IN AUGUST

During August, milk production in North Carolina was estimated at 127 million pounds, a decline of 7 percent from August 1977. The number of milk cows on farms during the month, including dry cows totaled 141,000 head, 10,000 less than August a year earlier. production per cow at 900 pounds remained unchanged from a year ago.

August milk production in the U. S. totaled 10.3 billion pounds,

down 1 percent from August 1977. Accumulated production for the first eight months of 1978 was down 1 percent from last year, but was 2 percent above the same period in 1976.

Production per cow averaged 945 pounds, 2 pounds less than a year earlier, but 28 pounds more than August 1976. Total milk cows averaged 10.9 million head for August, off 1 percent from last year.

MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION--August 1978

STATE	Milk Cows On Farms <i>L/</i>	Milk Per Cow	MILK PRODUCTION	
			Pounds	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Millions</i>	<i>Percent</i>
NORTH CAROLINA.	141	900	127	93
Virginia.....	172	935	161	97
Maryland.....	134	945	127	95
Georgia.....	129	770	99	99
Florida.....	197	760	150	100
UNITED STATES..	10,855	945	10,259	99

L/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

1978 YAM CROP RECORD HIGH

Sweet potato production in North Carolina is forecast at a record high 5.2 million cwt. as of September 1. This is 4% more than forecast a month earlier and 16% more than last year's production. Acres for harvest at 37,000 are up 12% from 1977. The yield per acre forecast at 140 cwt. is up 5 cwt. from last season.

Production of sweet potatoes for 1978 in the Nation is estimated at 13.7 million cwt., 2% above the August 1 forecast and 11% above last year. The crop is expected to be harvested from 118,500 acres, 5% above last year. Yield per acre is placed at 116 cwt. compared to 110 cwt. in 1977.

PRODUCTION OF PECANS UP IN N. C.

Pecan production in North Carolina is expected to total 3 million pounds in 1978. This year's production is 1 million pounds larger than last season. Adequate moisture supplies and a favorable set are responsible for the increase in this years outlook.

The U. S. pecan crop is forecast at 221 million pounds compared with 237 million pounds last year.

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HOG INVENTORY DOWN

All hogs and pigs on North Carolina farms totaled 2,040,000 head, a decrease of 9 percent from a year earlier, according to the North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. The September 1 inventory consisted of 316,000 head being kept for breeding purposes, down 7 percent and 1,724,000 head of market hogs. North Carolina ranks seventh in the Nation in the total number of hogs and pigs as of September 1.

North Carolina producers intend to farrow 96,000 sows during the next three months -- September through November -- four percent less than the same period last year. December through February 1979 farrowings are expected to total 115,000, the same as December-February 1978.

The state's pig crop June through August totaled 858,000 head, a decrease of 7% below June-August 1977. This pig crop resulted from the farrowing of 116,000 sows with litters that averaged 7.4 pigs per litter saved.

(See Hog Inventory, Page 5)

TURKEY BREEDER HEN INTENTIONS

Turkey breeder flock owners in 27 selected states expect to have 3 percent more breeder hens in their flocks December 1, 1978, than were on hand a year earlier. These owners expect to increase heavy breed flocks by nearly 1 percent and light breed flocks by 37 percent from a year ago.

The actual number of breeder hens on hand December 1, 1978 for the 1979 hatching season may vary from growers' intentions due to supply and price of hatching eggs and poults and prices received for turkeys during the next few months.

SEPTEMBER PRICE INDEX UP

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets during September is 210 (1967 = 100), an increase of 12 points from August and 23 points from September 1977.

The September "All Crops" index at 211 rose 18 points from August. Tobacco was up 25 points and fruits gained 15 points, while commercial vegetables dropped 25 points. Grains and oil bearing crops were up three points each from last month.

The "Livestock and Livestock Products" index rose 2 points from August and 27 points from September 1977. Meat animals rose 7 points, dairy was up 2 points while poultry remained unchanged from last month. (See Table, Page 2.)

N. C. HONEY PRODUCTION DOWN

Conditions in N. C. were less favorable for honey production this year than 1977. Commercial beekeepers with 300 or more colonies of bees expect to produce 414,000 pounds of honey during 1978. This is down 25 percent from production in 1977.

Commercial apiaries reported 9,000 colonies of bees, a decrease of 1,000 from 1977. The yield per colony is expected to average 46 pounds, down 9 pounds from the 55 pound average in 1977. The late wet Spring in North Carolina is most responsible for the expected decline in production.

Honey production from apiaries with 300 or more colonies in 20 selected honey producing states is expected to total 149 million pounds in 1978, about 44 percent above last year, and 28 percent more than in 1976.

(See Honey, Page 5)

U. S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 4 POINTS PRICES PAID INDEX UP 2 POINTS

The September Index of Prices Received by Farmers increased 4 points (2 percent) to 214 percent of its January-December 1967 average. Contributing most to the increase since August were higher prices for cattle, grapefruit, oranges, and milk. Lower prices for potatoes, corn, lemons, and rice were partially offsetting. The index was 40 points (23 percent) above a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates for September 15 was 222, up 2 points (1 percent) from mid-August. Increased prices of feeder livestock were the major contributor. Tractors, other farm machinery, and the family living component also showed some gains. The September index was 21 points (10 percent) above a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	Sep. 15 1975	Sep. 15 1976	Sep. 15 1977	Aug. 15 1978	Sep. 15 1978
NORTH CAROLINA					
Prices Received: All Farm Products....	<u>3/</u> 182	<u>3/</u> 184	<u>3/</u> 187	<u>3/</u> 198	210
All Crops.....	<u>3/</u> 169	187	189	<u>3/</u> 193	211
Tobacco.....	<u>3/</u> 159	182	200	190	215
Cotton.....	<u>3/</u> 197	-	-	-	-
Oil Bearing.....	<u>3/</u> 192	221	184	216	219
Grains.....	200	180	<u>3/</u> 125	<u>3/</u> 153	156
Commercial Vegetables.....	<u>3/</u> 161	<u>3/</u> 161	171	<u>3/</u> 238	213
Fruits.....	<u>3/</u> 177	<u>3/</u> 205	224	<u>3/</u> 229	244
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	<u>3/</u> 206	181	<u>3/</u> 182	207	209
Meat Animals.....	<u>3/</u> 236	<u>3/</u> 186	187	241	248
Poultry.....	204	183	182	199	199
Dairy.....	<u>3/</u> 167	<u>3/</u> 167	<u>3/</u> 170	176	178
UNITED STATES					
Prices Received, All Farm Products.....	<u>3/</u> 199	<u>3/</u> 186	<u>3/</u> 174	<u>3/</u> 210	214
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services <u>1/</u> ..	<u>3/</u> 186	<u>3/</u> 192	201	220	222
Parity Ratio <u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 107	96	<u>3/</u> 87	95	96

1/ Including Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. 3/ Revised.

CROP, LIVESTOCK PRICES UP, FEED PRICES MIXED

The average prices received for crops by North Carolina farmers at local markets about mid-September were higher compared to a month earlier. (See Table, Page 3.) Corn was up 3 cents to \$2.15 per bushel, oats up 9 cents to \$1.12, while soybeans were up 14 cents per bushel to \$6.61.

Prices received for livestock were also higher than August. Hogs increased 30 cents per hundredweight to \$48.40. Beef cattle prices rose \$3.30 per hundredweight. Veal calves rose \$3.10 per hundredweight, while milk cows rose \$20.00 per head to \$430.00.

Prices the state's farmers had to pay for feed during September were mixed. (See Table, Page 3.) Chick starter, broiler grower and laying feed were lower, while turkey grower showed a \$3.00 per ton increase. Mixed dairy feed with 16, 18 and 20 percent protein were up \$1.00, \$3.00 and \$5.00 per ton, respectively. Dairy feed, 32% protein, remained unchanged from September. In the high protein feeds category, cottonseed meal (41 percent protein) was up 50 cents per hundredweight, while soybean meal (44 percent protein) remained unchanged from September.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		Sep. 15 1977	Aug. 15 1978	Sep. 15 1978*	Sep. 15 1977	Aug. 15 1978	Sep. 15 1978*
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	1.310	1.260	1.419	1.315	1.318	1.412
Corn.....	Bu.	1.70	2/ 2.12	2.15	1.60	2.00	1.92
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.16	2.88	2.88
Oats.....	Bu.	1.36	2/ 1.03	1.12	.938	1.09	1.09
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	1.69	1.87	1.85
Sorghum Grains.	Cwt.	-	-	-	2.52	3.37	3.22
Soybeans.....	Bu.	-	2/ 6.47	6.61	5.17	6.21	6.19
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.591	.566	.551
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.664	.753	.778
Hogs.....	Cwt.	40.40	48.10	48.40	40.30	47.50	47.60
Beef Cattle....	Cwt.	26.00	41.70	45.00	34.70	48.80	51.60
Veal Calves....	Cwt.	36.30	59.20	62.30	38.00	61.70	65.40
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	355.00	410.00	430.00	513.00	636.00	658.00
Com'l. Broilers	Lb.	.245	.285	.275	.238	.267	.267
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.35	.38	.40	.344	.429	.435
Eggs 1/.....	Doz.	.636	.627	.653	.523	.520	.537
Milk, Whlse....	Cwt.	11.00	11.30	11.40	9.97	10.50	10.80
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	6.00	9.40	8.90	3.29	5.44	3.61
Sweet Potatoes.	Cwt.	7.40	12.50	8.00	8.10	13.10	9.65
Apples, Com'l..	Lb.	.125	.105	.120	.133	.150	.158
Hay, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	50.00	49.00	47.80
Alfalfa Hay....	Ton	-	-	-	52.10	51.40	50.10
Other.....	Ton	-	-	-	45.70	43.30	41.60

1/ Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers. 2/ Revised. * Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	Sep. 15 1977	Aug. 15 1978	Sep. 15 1978	Sep. 15 1977	Aug. 15 1978	Sep. 15 1978
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed						
14% Protein.....	127.00	-	-	121.00	127.00	128.00
16% Protein.....	133.00	143.00	144.00	128.00	136.00	137.00
18% Protein.....	-	139.00	142.00	-	144.00	146.00
20% Protein.....	-	145.00	150.00	-	143.00	145.00
32% Protein.....	192.00	196.00	196.00	185.00	197.00	201.00
Poultry Feeds						
Chick Starter.....	164.00	179.00	176.00	161.00	172.00	173.00
Broiler Grower....	174.00	179.00	176.00	154.00	169.00	168.00
Laying Feed 1/.....	140.00	155.00	152.00	138.00	150.00	149.00
Turkey Grower 1/....	191.00	192.00	195.00	172.00	182.00	180.00
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products						
Bran.....	7.40	7.50	7.40	6.99	7.13	7.13
Middlings.....	7.10	7.20	7.30	6.84	7.05	7.02
Corn Meal.....	5.70	6.20	6.10	5.17	5.91	5.76
High Protein Feeds						
Cottonseed Meal 41%.	13.50	12.50	13.00	10.80	10.50	10.70
Soybean Meal 44%....	12.50	12.00	12.00	11.20	11.50	11.50

1/ Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

CHICK HATCH UP

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 32.0 million broiler-type chicks during August 1978. Conversely, egg-type chicks at 400 thousand is down 33 percent from the 1978 level.

For the Nation, the August hatch of broiler-type chicks at 311 million was 8 percent more than August 1977. Egg-type chicks at 38.6 million was down 2 percent from last year's level.

CHICKS HATCHED -- AUGUST

STATE	BROILER-TYPE		1978 As % Of 1977	EGG-TYPE		1978 As % Of 1977
	1977	1978		1977	1978	
	Thousands					
NORTH CAROLINA	30,045	32,038	107	600	400	67
South Carolina	2,850	3,783	133	739	784	106
Georgia	43,417	48,885	113	3,790	3,841	101
Florida	7,120	8,233	116	2,762	3,040	110
Delaware	13,158	14,024	107	//	//	-
Maryland	16,710	18,610	111	//	//	-
Virginia	8,830	10,427	118	928	428	46
UNITED STATES	287,431	310,621	108	37,821	38,603	102

// Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

U. S. TURKEY HATCH UP 18 PERCENT

The hatch of 9.61 million turkey poults during August was 18 percent above a year ago. The hatch of heavy breeds was up 25 percent from August 1977 but the light breed hatch was down 28 percent.

The 8.45 million turkey eggs in incubators on September 1, 1978 were up

30 percent from a year earlier. Eggs set for heavy breed turkeys were up 29 percent from last year and light breeds were up 46 percent. Heavy breed turkeys in flocks tested for pullorum-typhoid totaled 322 thousand, an increase of 45 percent from August 1977.

POULTS HATCHED -- AUGUST

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	HEAVY BREEDS //		LIGHT BREEDS //		ALL BREEDS	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
<i>Thousands</i>						
North Atlantic	223	130	58	0	281	130
East North Central	1,204	1,376	52	0	1,256	1,376
West North Central	1,692	2,229	551	471	2,243	2,700
South Atlantic	1,816	2,730	318	278	2,134	3,008
South Central	449	517	0	0	449	517
West	1,705	1,869	76	13	1,781	1,882
UNITED STATES	7,089	8,851	1,055	762	8,144	9,613

// Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is 12 pounds or over.

// Birds for which the normal mature marketing weight is under 12 pounds.

AUGUST EGG PRODUCTION UP

Egg production on North Carolina farms during August was 285 million, an estimated increase of 15 percent from August a year earlier. The number of hens and pullets of laying age on hand

was 13.8 million in August compared to 12.5 million in August 1977. The rate of lay per 100 layers on hand during August averaged 2,062, an increase of 72 eggs from August 1977.

NUMBER OF LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- AUGUST

STATE	LAYERS ON HAND		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		TOTAL EGGS PRODUCED	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
NORTH CAROLINA	12,500	13,800	1,990	2,062	249	285
Virginia	3,431	3,735	1,956	2,009	67	75
South Carolina	4,980	5,430	2,046	2,124	102	115
Georgia	22,815	23,700	1,969	1,962	449	465
Florida	12,332	12,505	2,062	1,996	254	250
UNITED STATES	270,646	272,377	1,978	2,011	5,354	5,477

N. C. SOYBEAN STOCKS DOWN

There were 1.5 million bushels of old crop soybeans in all North Carolina storage positions on September 1, 1978, according to the North Carolina Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, and the smallest quantity of carryover since 1971. This was more than double last year's carryover while off-farm soybean stocks at 913,000 bushels were less than half of the September 1, 1977 quantity.

For the Nation, carryover of old crop soybeans into the 1978-79 marketing year totaled 159 million bushels (4.33 million metric tons), up 55 percent from last year, but 35 percent below 1976. Soybeans stored on farms totaled 57.8 million bushels (1.57 million metric tons), up 76 percent from last year, but down 33 percent from 1976.

HONEY (Cont'd. From Page 1)

The estimated 2.00 million colonies of bees held by the apiaries in 1978 are 1 percent above a year ago. Yield per colony is expected to average 74.6 pounds compared with 52.4 pounds last year and 60.3 pounds in 1976.

Better yields per colony were experienced this year in most of the major producing states. Honey producers in California reported a good to average year and were able to take honey from the "NUKS".

HOG INVENTORY (Cont'd. From Page 1)

Inventory of hogs and pigs on September 1, 1978 in the 14 states conducting quarterly hog surveys was estimated at 48.9 million head, 1 percent below a year earlier. Breeding inventory, at 7.40 million head, was 3 percent higher than a year ago, while market hog inventory totaled 41.5 million head, 1 percent below last year. The 14 Quarterly States usually account for about 85 percent of the total U.S. hog and pig inventory.

The June-August 1978 pig crop in the 14 states totaled 18.7 million head, slightly below the previous year. There were 2.60 million sows farrowed

in these states during this period, virtually unchanged from the corresponding period in 1977. Litter size averaged 7.20 pigs for the three months, compared with 7.22 a year earlier. A smaller litter size combined with conception problems reduced the expected pig crop for this quarter.

Producers in the 14 States intend to have 2.64 million sows farrow during the September-November 1978 period, 3 percent more than a year ago. Farrowing intentions for the December 1978-February 1979 quarter are placed at 2.35 million sows, 3 percent more than a year earlier.

HOGS AND PIGS: September 1, 1978 Report, Number On Farms, Sows Farrowing, and Pig Crop, 1977-1978

PIG CROP	NORTH CAROLINA			14 STATES*		
	1977	1978	1978 As % 1977	1977	1978	1978 As % 1977
	<i>Thousand Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Thousand Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
NUMBER ON FARMS SEPTEMBER 1:						
All Hogs and Pigs.....	2,250	2,040	91	49,233	48,940	99
Kept for Breeding.....	338	316	93	7,200	7,396	103
Market.....	1,912	1,724	90	41,033	41,544	99
Market Hogs and Pigs						
By Weight Groups:						
Under 60 Pounds.....	889	793	89	17,538	17,209	98
60-119 Pounds.....	468	397	85	10,590	10,488	99
120-179 Pounds.....	325	310	95	8,074	7,972	99
180-219 Pounds.....	182	190	104	4,981	4,999	100
220 Pounds and Over.....	48	34	71	850	876	103
NUMBER ON FARMS JUNE 1:						
All Hogs and Pigs.....	1,920	2,035	106	46,640	47,205	101
Kept for Breeding.....	317	326	103	7,352	7,435	101
Market.....	1,603	1,709	107	39,288	39,770	101
SOWS FARROWING:						
March-May.....	108	115	106	2,893	2,880	100
June-August.....	123	116	94	2,605	2,597	100
September-November.....	86	100	96	2,565	2,644	103
PIG CROP:						
March-May.....	794	828	104	21,386	20,791	97
June-August.....	923	858	93	18,804	18,693	99
PIGS PER LITTER:	<i>Number</i>			<i>Number</i>		
March-May.....	7.35	7.20	98	7.39	7.22	98
June-August.....	7.50	7.40	99	7.22	7.20	100
	1978	1979 1/	1979 As % 1978	1978	1979 1/	1979 As % 1978
	<i>Thousand Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Thousand Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
SOWS FARROWING:						
December 2/-February.....	115	115	100	2,285	2,354	103

1/ Intentions. 2/ December preceding year. * Includes Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minn., Missouri, Nebraska, N. C., Ohio, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin.

AUGUST SLAUGHTER IN N. C. UP SLIGHTLY

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during August totaled 47.3 million pounds live weight, up 127 thousand pounds from August 1977. The number of head slaughtered increased 7 percent to 180,000.

Cattle slaughtered were down 33 percent to 10.0 million pounds live weight. Calf slaughtered dropped 45 percent to 85,000 pounds live weight. Hog kill at 37.3 million pounds live weight increased 16 percent above the previous year's kill, thus accounting for the overall increase from August a year earlier.

The average live weight per head for cattle slaughtered during August was 933 pounds, up 75 pounds from August a year earlier. Calf slaughter at 262 pounds increased 29 pounds and hogs at 221 pounds increased 8 pounds above the previous year.

Red meat production in North Carolina during August 1978 at 31.7 million pounds, was 3 percent above August 1977.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in August 1978 totaled 3.27 billion pounds, down 4 percent from August 1977. January-August total red meat output at 25.2 billion pounds was 2 percent below last year...change by individual components: beef, down 4 percent; veal, down 19; pork, up 2; lamb and mutton, down 13 percent. Commercial red meat production includes slaughter in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Beef production at 2.10 billion pounds was down 6 percent. Head kill at 3.46 million was down 8 percent while average live weight increased 17 pounds to 1,031.

Pork production totaled 1.10 billion pounds from the 6.48 million head killed. Production was up 3 percent and average live weight increased 2 pounds to 238. Preliminary lard production was 81 million pounds, down 5 percent from last year.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER 1/

SPECIES	AUGUST				JANUARY THROUGH AUGUST			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>	
NORTH CAROLINA								
Cattle	17.4	10.7	14,908	9,970	125.0	102.9	110,076	92,056
Calves	.7	.3	154	85	4.7	3.5	1,052	927
Sheep & Lambs	.1	.1	6	10	.3	.6	30	51
Hogs	150.7	168.9	32,131	37,261	1,246.4	1,266.7	274,962	280,770
TOTAL	168.9	180.0	47,199	47,326	1,376.4	1,373.7	386,120	373,804
	<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
UNITED STATES								
Cattle	3.7	3.5	3,801	3,564	27.7	26.6	28,479	27,350
Calves	.5	.3	125	84	3.6	2.9	907	713
Sheep & Lambs	.6	.5	60	50	4.3	3.6	463	400
Hogs	6.4	6.5	1,514	1,545	50.0	50.5	11,817	12,022
TOTAL	11.2	10.8	5,500	5,243	85.6	83.6	40,666	40,485

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

HONEY: Commercial Production In Apiaries With 300 Or More Colonies In 20 Major States, 1977-78

STATE	COLONIES OF BEES			YIELD PER COLONY		HONEY PRODUCTION		
	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977	1977	1978	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Thousand Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Arizona.....	46	55	120	48	53	2,208	2,915	132
California.....	410	405	99	26	62	10,660	25,110	236
Colorado.....	30	30	100	74	72	2,220	2,160	97
Florida.....	210	220	105	55	87	11,550	19,140	166
Georgia.....	120	115	96	32	26	3,840	2,990	78
Idaho.....	94	90	96	49	46	4,606	4,140	90
Illinois.....	8	6	75	52	50	416	300	72
Iowa.....	37	36	97	92	63	3,404	2,268	67
Michigan.....	54	55	102	62	65	3,348	3,575	107
Minnesota.....	125	120	96	82	95	10,250	11,400	111
Montana.....	92	91	99	58	80	5,336	7,280	136
Nebraska.....	130	130	100	49	65	6,370	8,450	133
New York.....	52	47	90	33	60	1,716	2,820	164
NORTH CAROLINA.....	10	9	90	55	46	550	414	75
North Dakota...	117	155	132	88	142	10,296	22,010	214
Oregon.....	30	35	117	43	45	1,290	1,575	122
South Dakota...	156	168	108	58	121	9,048	20,328	225
Texas.....	106	90	85	60	55	6,360	4,950	78
Washington.....	68	66	97	53	50	3,604	3,300	92
Wisconsin.....	81	80	99	79	53	6,399	4,240	66
20 STATES.....	1,976	2,003	101	52.4	74.6	103,471	149,365	144

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OCTOBER 1 CROP HIGHLIGHTS

NORTH CAROLINA

Flue-cured production up 13% from 1977.
Corn production up 38% from last year.
Soybean production record high, 32% above 1977.

Peanut production down 3% from last year.

Sweet potato production record high, up 16% from 1977.

Cotton production record low, 34% below last year.

UNITED STATES

Flue-cured production up 9% from 1977.
Corn production record high, 7% above previous record set last year.

Soybean production record high, up 2% from 1977.

Peanut production 6% above last year.

Sweet potato production up 11% from 1977.

Cotton production down 24% from last year.

CORN PRODUCTION DOWN SLIGHTLY

Corn production in the Tar Heel State is forecast at 119 million bushels, 4% less than a month earlier but 38% more than last year's drought reduced crop. The average yield per acre at 77 bushels is 3 bushels less than the September 1 forecast, but 26 bushels more than last year's average. Yields in the Coastal Plains Region are turning out less than earlier expectations. Combining was 65% completed by September 30. This is behind last year's pace of 73% but slightly ahead of the five-year average of 63%. See table on page 3 for acreage, yield and production for
(See Corn, Page 3)

FLUE-CURED FORECAST UP 1%

Flue-cured tobacco production in North Carolina is forecast at 812 million pounds, 1% more than the September 1 outlook and 13% more than last year's production of 721 million pounds. The increase from a month earlier is in the Old and Middle Belt and the Eastern Belt where average yields are expected to be 25 pounds higher than the previous forecast. Acres harvested are unchanged from the earlier estimate of 390,000. The average yield per acre for all flue-cured is 2,083 pounds, 200 pounds more than last year's average.

Flue-cured tobacco in the United States is forecast at 1227 million pounds, 9 percent above 1977. Harvest of flue-cured tobacco was nearing completion by the end of September, a few days later than normal. Flue-cured markets continued active during September and record high prices were received by producers.

RECORD HIGH SOYBEAN CROP

Soybean production in North Carolina is placed at a record high 38.4 million bushels, the same as a month earlier but 32% more than last year. The yield per acre is expected to average 24 bushels, up 2 bushels from 1977. Acreage for harvest is estimated at a record high 1.6 million acres, 21% above last year. Harvest is just getting underway.

U. S. soybean production is forecast at a record 1.79 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month's forecast, up 2 percent from last year's crop, and 39 percent above the 1976 crop. Yield per acre is indicated at 28.3 bushels, down 2.3 bushels from last year, but 2.2 bushels per acre above 1976.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO, BY TYPE, OCTOBER 1, 1978

STATE	TYPE	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978	1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978	1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978
		<i>Thousands</i>			<i>Pounds</i>			<i>Thousand Pounds</i>		
Virginia	11	70.0	61.0	56.0	1,780	1,795	1,850	124,600	109,495	103,600
N. C.	11	185.0	160.0	155.0	1,830	1,770	1,875	338,550	283,200	290,620
N. C.	12	203.0	177.0	186.0	2,140	1,955	2,225	434,420	346,035	413,850
N. C.	13	51.0	46.0	49.0	2,160	1,995	2,200	110,160	91,770	107,800
N.C. Total	11-13	439.0	383.0	390.0	2,012	1,883	2,083	883,130	721,005	812,270
S. C.	13	75.0	68.0	70.0	2,045	2,040	2,150	153,375	138,720	150,500
Georgia	14	68.0	65.0	61.0	1,820	2,075	2,250	123,760	134,875	137,250
Florida	14	14.0	11.7	11.0	2,160	2,100	2,050	30,240	24,570	22,550
Alabama	14	.6	.6	.5	1,800	1,900	1,800	1,152	1,045	930
U.S. TOTAL	11-14	666.6	589.3	588.5	1,974	1,917	2,085	1,316,257	1,129,710	1,227,110

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES
FOR FRESH MARKET

Growers in North Carolina intend to harvest 1,700 acres of cabbage for fresh market this fall. This is down 500 acres from the 2,200 acres harvested last fall.

Area for harvest in the major producing states during the 1978 fall quarter is forecast at 29.4 thousand acres, up 5 percent from a year ago. Based on historic average yields, this acreage is expected to provide 8.03 million cwt. of cabbage, virtually the same as a year ago.

As of October 1, North Carolina growers expected to harvest 320 acres of snap beans for fresh market this fall. This compares with 300 acres harvested during the fall of 1977.

The 1978 fall quarter area for harvest in major producing states is estimated at 20.3 thousand acres, 7 percent more than the area harvested during the fall quarter of 1977. Based on average yields of recent years, projected production at 791 thousand cwt. would be 14 percent above the 1977 fall crop.

RECORD LOW COTTON CROP IN N. C.

The State's cotton production is forecast at a record low 35,000 bales. This is unchanged from the previous month's forecast but is down sharply from the 53,000 bales produced in 1977. Acreage for harvest is down about 51 percent from last year but the expected average yield per acre at 410 pounds is up 10 percent from 1977. Harvest is just getting underway.

U. S. cotton production is forecast at 10.9 million bales (480 lbs. net weight), 24 percent below 1977 and 3 percent below the September 1 forecast. Expected production consists of 10.8 million bales of Upland and 820 thousand bales of American-Pima. Cottonseed production in 1978, based on a three year average lint-seed ratio, is forecast at 4.22 million tons, 24 percent below 1977.

Growers expect to harvest 12.5 million acres of all cotton this year, 7 percent below 1977 and virtually unchanged from the September 1 estimate. Average lint yield per harvested acre is forecast at 425 pounds, 95 pounds below 1977.

CORN (Cont'd. From Page 1)

each Crop Reporting District.

U. S. production of corn for grain is forecast at a record 6.82 billion bushels, up less than 1 percent from the September 1 forecast and up 7 percent from the 1977 production.

Acreage for grain at 67.8 million acres is virtually unchanged from September 1 and is 3 percent below 1977.

Average yield is forecast at a record 100.7 bushels per acre, 0.4 bushel above last month and up 9.7 bushels from 1977. Yields were either unchanged or up from last month in all major Corn Belt States with the exception of Illinois where the yield was down 2 bushels per acre.

NORTH CAROLINA CORN ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION BY DISTRICTS, OCTOBER 1, 1978 WITH COMPARISONS

DISTRICT	Area Harvested			Yield Per Acre			Production		
	1976	1977	Ind. 1978	1976	1977	Ind. 1978	1976	1977	Ind. 1978
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>			<i>Bushels</i>			<i>1,000 Bushels</i>		
N. Mountain	48.9	43.0	37.0	63.8	44.1	73	3,119	1,895	2,700
W. Mountain	33.8	29.0	28.0	67.3	53.7	71	2,275	1,557	1,990
N. Piedmont	118.4	106.0	97.0	45.1	29.6	63	5,345	3,135	6,110
C. Piedmont	101.5	85.0	90.0	57.5	26.9	68	5,840	2,290	6,120
S. Piedmont	88.4	68.0	68.0	71.6	27.2	66	6,331	1,852	4,490
N. Coastal	467.8	415.0	385.0	90.1	71.2	86	42,161	29,536	33,110
C. Coastal	565.9	524.0	455.0	85.0	50.0	79	48,092	26,212	35,940
S. Coastal	455.3	420.0	380.0	81.8	46.9	74	37,237	19,713	28,120
N. Carolina	1,880.0	1,690.0	1,540.0	80.0	51.0	77	150,400	86,190	118,580

CORN FOR GRAIN BY STATE, OCTOBER 1, 1978

STATE	HARVESTED ACRES		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION	
	1977	Indicated 1978	1977	Indicated 1978	1977	Indicated 1978
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>		<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	
Georgia.....	1,000	1,400	24.0	50.0	24,000	70,000
Illinois.....	10,980	10,700	105.0	114.0	1,152,900	1,219,800
Indiana.....	6,210	5,900	102.0	110.0	633,420	649,000
Iowa.....	12,400	12,100	88.0	115.0	1,091,200	1,391,500
Kentucky.....	1,410	1,340	90.0	86.0	126,900	115,240
Minnesota.....	6,000	6,100	100.0	99.0	600,000	603,900
Nebraska.....	6,350	6,300	99.0	108.0	628,650	680,400
NORTH CAROLINA	1,690	1,540	51.0	77.0	86,190	118,580
Ohio.....	3,620	3,570	105.0	105.0	380,100	374,850
South Carolina	620	515	36.0	55.0	22,320	28,325
Tennessee.....	730	650	65.0	75.0	47,450	48,750
Virginia.....	560	580	55.0	85.0	30,800	49,300
Wisconsin.....	2,750	2,500	104.0	96.0	286,000	240,000
UNITED STATES.	70,006	67,764	91.0	100.7	6,370,624	6,823,720

NORTH CAROLINA: Estimated Acreage, Yield and Production of Crops, October 1, 1978, With Comparisons

CROPS	UNIT	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
		Thousands								
Corn for Grain.....	Bu.	1,880	1,690	1,540	80.0	51.0	77.0	150,400	86,190	118,580
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	240	200	175	29.0	30.0	34.0	6,960	6,000	5,950
Oats.....	Bu.	80	75	90	47.0	42.0	53.0	3,760	3,150	4,770
Barley.....	Bu.	60	55	59	39.0	40.0	51.0	2,340	2,200	3,009
Rye.....	Bu.	20	21	26	19.0	19.0	21.0	380	399	546
Tobacco: Flue-Cured....	Lb.	439.0	383.0	390.0	2,012	1,883	2,083	883,130	721,005	812,275
Burley.....	Lb.	9.0	9.6	8.5	2,200	2,450	2,350	19,800	23,520	19,975
All Types.....	Lb.	448.0	392.6	398.5	2,015	1,896	2,088	902,930	744,525	832,250
Cotton \angle	Lb.	71	83	41	489	305	410	72	53	35
Sorghum for Grain.....	Bu.	90	72	79	51.0	37.0	52.0	4,590	2,664	4,108
Irish Potatoes: Spring..	Cwt.	13.0	13.4	13.0	145	165	145	1,885	2,211	1,885
Summer..	Cwt.	4.0	4.0	4.0	125	125	125	500	500	500
All.....	Cwt.	17.0	17.4	17.0	140	156	140	2,385	2,711	2,385
Sweet Potatoes.....	Cwt.	33.0	33.0	37.0	130	135	140	4,290	4,455	5,180
Soybeans for Beans.....	Bu.	1,120	1,320	1,600	22.0	22.0	24.0	24,640	29,040	38,400
Peanuts for Nuts.....	Lb.	166	166	166	2,655	2,675	2,600	440,730	444,050	431,600
Hay: Alfalfa & Mixtures.	Ton	15	16	17	2.70	2.30	2.70	41	37	46
All Other.....	Ton	335	334	343	1.40	1.45	1.60	469	484	549
All Kinds.....	Ton	350	350	360	1.46	1.49	1.65	510	521	595
Pasture Condition \angle	%	$\underline{3}$ / 79	69	80	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peaches, All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,000	35,000	40,000
Apples, Commercial.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	265,000	270,000	295,000
Grapes, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.58	4.65	4.70
Pecans, Improved.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,900	1,100	1,900
Wild & Seedlings	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	900	900	1,100
All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,800	2,000	3,000

\angle Production in 480 lb. NMB. \angle Data shown for pastures represent condition, not acres. \angle 1967-76 average condition on October 1.

UNITED STATES: Estimated Acreage, Yield and Production of Crops, October 1, 1978, With Comparisons

CROPS	UNIT	HARVESTED ACRES		YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION			
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
		Thousands			Thousands			Thousands		
Corn for Grain.....	Bu.	71,300	70,006	67,764	87.9	91.0	100.7	6,266,359	6,370,624	6,823,720
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	49,460	48,419	38,846	31.5	31.5	32.0	1,559,923	1,526,713	1,243,685
Wheat, All.....	Bu.	70,771	66,216	56,532	30.3	30.6	31.5	2,142,362	2,025,793	1,778,360
Oats.....	Bu.	11,946	13,447	11,951	45.7	55.6	49.9	546,315	747,914	595,879
Barley.....	Bu.	8,297	9,490	9,106	44.9	43.8	48.1	372,461	415,803	438,429
Rye.....	Bu.	721	694	1,070	20.7	24.5	26.7	14,951	16,998	28,567
Tobacco: Flue-cured.....	Lb.	666.6	589.3	588.5	1,974	1,917	2,085	1,316,257	1,129,710	1,227,111
Burley.....	Lb.	285.8	268.5	259.3	2,376	2,298	2,400	678,976	616,929	622,290
All Types.....	Lb.	1,044.5	957.7	944.5	2,045	1,997	2,129	2,135,829	1,912,417	2,010,925
Cotton <u>L</u>	Lb.	10,914	13,279	12,294	465	520	425	10,581	14,389	10,873
Sorghum for Grain.....	Bu.	14,723	14,065	13,446	48.9	56.2	52.0	719,817	790,647	698,958
Irish Potatoes: Spring..	Cwt.	98.4	91.4	90.7	251	250	199	24,722	22,870	18,028
Summer..	Cwt.	118.7	115.2	112.2	190	191	187	22,541	21,982	21,013
All.....	Cwt.	1,374.5	1,358.7	1,362.2	260	261	260	357,674	354,576	353,680
Sweet Potatoes.....	Cwt.	117.8	112.4	118.5	114	110	116	13,432	12,395	13,751
Soybeans for Beans.....	Bu.	49,358	57,612	63,268	26.1	30.6	28.3	1,287,560	1,761,755	1,792,064
Peanuts for Nuts.....	Lb.	1,522	1,516	1,516	2,465	2,457	2,608	3,750,890	3,726,015	3,952,570
Hay: Alfalfa & Mixtures.	Ton	26,651	27,085	27,559	2.62	2.97	3.08	69,828	80,430	84,750
All Other.....	Ton	33,660	33,408	33,695	1.49	1.52	1.61	50,178	50,627	54,409
All Kinds.....	Ton	60,311	60,493	61,254	1.99	2.17	2.27	120,006	131,057	139,159
Pasture Condition <u>2</u> /.....	%	<u>3</u> / 78	76	77	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peaches, All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,020,000	2,991,000	2,608,600
Apples, Commercial.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,479,200	6,655,600	7,383,500
Grapes, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,398	4,298	4,318
Pecans, Improved.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	77,300	137,900	137,500
Wild & Seedlings	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,800	98,700	74,800
All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	103,100	236,600	212,300

1/ U. S. includes American-Pima. Production in 480-lb. NWB. 2/ Data shown for pastures represent condition, not acres.
3/ 1967-76 average condition on October 1.

SWEET POTATO CROP RECORD HIGH

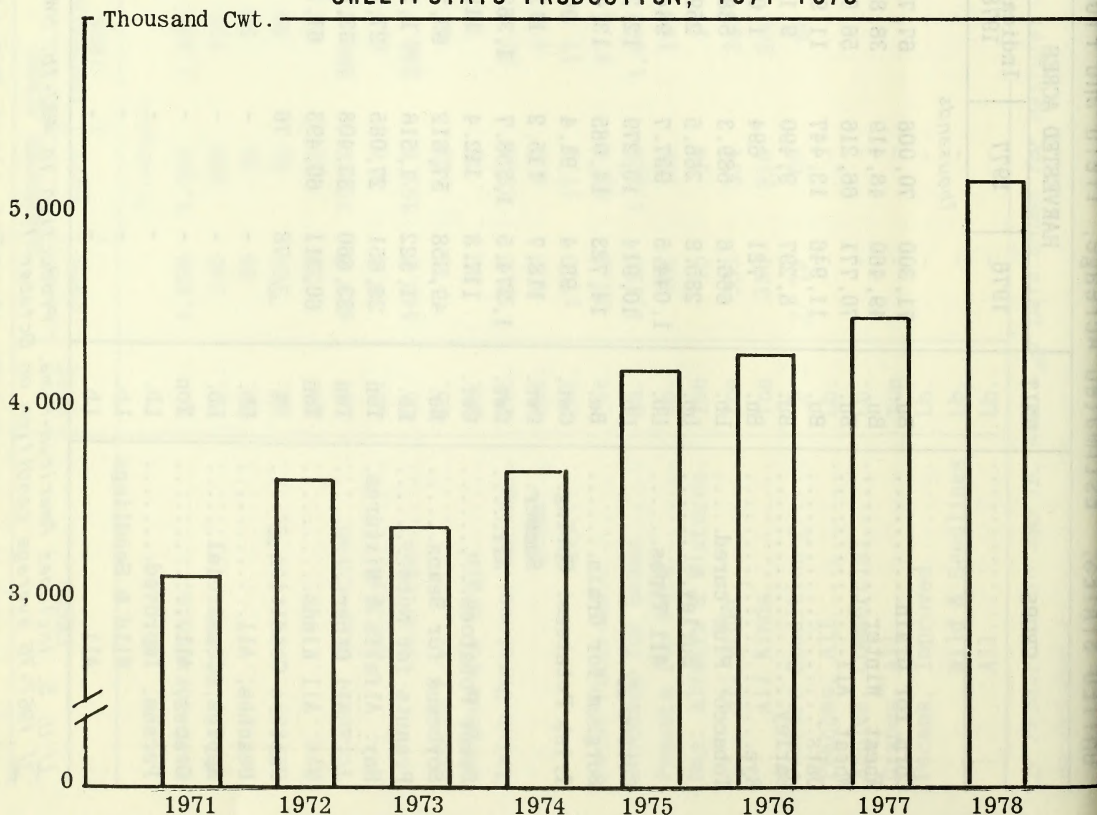
Sweet potato production in North Carolina is forecast at a record high 5.2 million cwt. as of October 1. This is unchanged from the forecast a month earlier but 16% more than the 1977 production. The crop is expected to be harvested from 37,000 acres, 12% more than in 1977. Yield per acre is placed at 140 cwt., 5 cwt. more than last year's average.

The U. S. production forecast for the 1978 season is placed at 13.8 million cwt., slightly above the September 1 forecast and 11 percent above the 12.4 million cwt. produced last year. The crop is expected to be harvested from 119 thousand acres, 5 percent more than in 1977. Yield per acre is placed at

116 cwt. compared with 110 cwt. in 1977, and 114 cwt. in 1976.

Harvest is progressing at a rapid pace in New Jersey where the crop is showing good quality. In North Carolina, the leading sweet potato state, growing conditions have been good throughout most of the season. Harvest was about 50 percent complete on September 30. Quality of early harvested sweet potatoes in South Carolina has been very good. Harvest was about one-third complete by the end of September. The Louisiana crop made good growth in most areas during September. About 65 percent of the crop was harvested by the end of September compared with 55 percent last year.

SWEETPOTATO PRODUCTION, 1971-1978



PEANUT FORECAST LOWER

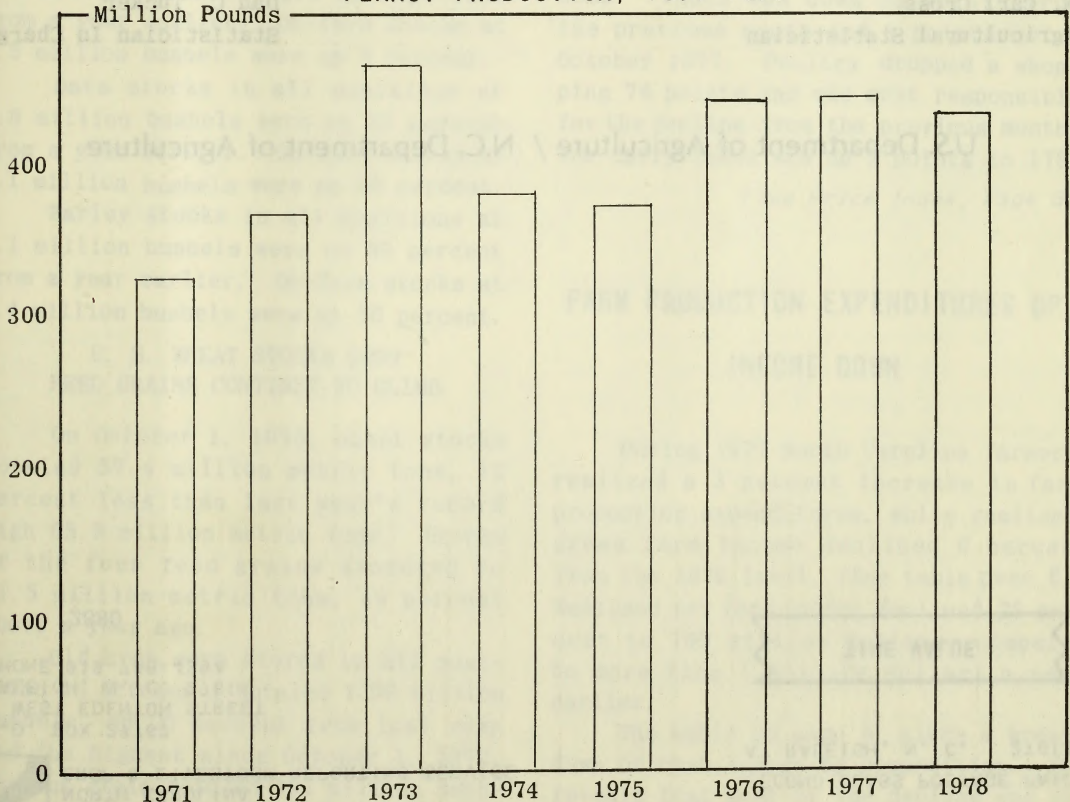
The North Carolina peanut crop is forecast at 432 million pounds, 7% less than forecast a month earlier and 3% less than last year's production. Dry weather during September hurt yield prospects. The average yield per acre is forecast at 2,600 pounds, 200 pounds less than the September 1 forecast and 75 pounds below last year's average yield. Harvest progress is behind both last year and average. As of September 30, about 11% of the crop had been threshed compared with 20% a year earlier and the average of 18%.

U. S. peanut production is forecast at 3.95 billion pounds net weight, down 1 percent from the September 1 forecast but 6 percent above the 3.73 billion pounds produced last year. The expected yield of 2608 pounds per acre is down 20 pounds from last month but up

151 pounds from last year. Acres to be harvested remains at 1.52 million acres.

Southeastern production is expected to total 2.54 billion pounds, 10 percent more than last year. The average yield of 3110 pounds compares with 2814 pounds last year. Yields vary widely across the droughty Georgia peanut belt and the dry conditions triggered earlier harvest than last year on non-irrigated acreage. Irrigation of peanuts in Georgia has increased significantly during recent years with approximately 40 percent of the peanut acreage now irrigated. Yield from these irrigated acres is helping push the indicated state yield to a record level in spite of the droughty season. Progress of harvest in Alabama and Florida is ahead of last year at this time. A record yield is expected in Florida.

PEANUT PRODUCTION, 1971-1978



BURLEY FORECAST UNCHANGED

Burley tobacco production in North Carolina is forecast at 20 million pounds, the same as forecast a month earlier, but 15% less than last year's production. The yield per acre is expected to average 2,350 pounds, unchanged from the September 1 forecast but 100 pounds less than last year's average yield.

Burley production in the U. S. is forecast at 622 million pounds, the same as the September 1 forecast, but 1 percent above 1977's production. Weather during September in Kentucky was almost ideal for cutting and curing. The dry conditions limited houseburn damage. More than 90 percent of the crop in Kentucky was cut and housed by October 1.

MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION--SEPTEMBER 1978

STATE	Milk Cows On Farms \perp	Milk Per Cow	MILK PRODUCTION	
			Pounds	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Millions</i>	<i>Percent</i>
NORTH CAROLINA.	141	890	125	92
Virginia.....	173	905	157	97
Maryland.....	134	950	127	96
Georgia.....	129	775	100	99
Florida.....	197	730	144	99
UNITED STATES..	10,847	897	9,732	99

\perp Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

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NORTH CAROLINA GRAIN STOCKS DOWN

Grain stocks in North Carolina in all storage positions on October 1, 1978 were down 16 percent from a year earlier. The increases for wheat, oats and barley stocks only partially offset the decline in corn stocks.

Old crop corn stocks in all positions totaled 1.8 million bushels, down 70 percent from a year earlier. On-farm stocks at 1.3 million bushels were down 75 percent, while off-farm stocks were down 34 percent.

Wheat stocks in all positions at 4.4 million bushels were up 8 percent from a year earlier. On-farm stocks at 1.5 million bushels were up 8 percent.

Oats stocks in all positions at 3.8 million bushels were up 89 percent from a year earlier. On-farm stocks at 2.1 million bushels were up 48 percent.

Barley stocks in all positions at 2.1 million bushels were up 88 percent from a year earlier. On-farm stocks at 1.4 million bushels were up 50 percent.

U. S. WHEAT STOCKS DOWN FEED GRAINS CONTINUE TO CLIMB

On October 1, 1978, wheat stocks totaled 57.4 million metric tons, 12 percent less than last year's record high 65.3 million metric tons. Stocks of the four feed grains amounted to 51.5 million metric tons, 19 percent above a year ago.

Old crop corn stored in all positions on October 1 totaled 1.06 billion bushels, up 20 percent from last year and the highest since October 1, 1972. Sorghum grain totaled 191 million bush-

(See Grain Stocks, Page 5)

OCTOBER PRICE INDEX DOWN

The 'All Farm Products' index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets during October is 191 (1967 = 100), down 18 points from September but up 16 points from October 1977.

The October 'All Crops' index at 204 was down 6 points from the previous month but up 29 points from October 1977. Most of the components of the crops index are down with the exception of grains and oil bearing crops.

The 'Livestock and Livestock Products' index was down 38 points from the previous month and 6 points below October 1977. Poultry dropped a whopping 74 points and was most responsible for the decline from the previous month. The dairy index was up 2 points to 178.

(See Price Index, Page 8)

FARM PRODUCTION EXPENDITURES UP, INCOME DOWN

During 1977 North Carolina farmers realized a 3 percent increase in farm production expenditures, while realized gross farm income declined 6 percent from the 1976 level. (See table page 6.) Realized net farm income declined 23 percent to 789 million dollars, compared to more than 1 billion dollars a year earlier.

The table on page 6 gives a breakdown of cash income by commodities. It reveals that most of the decline was in the 'all crops' category.

U. S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 2 POINTS PRICES PAID INDEX UP 1 POINT

The October Index of Prices Received by Farmers increased 2 points (1 percent) to 217 percent of its January-December 1967 average. Contributing most to the increase since September were higher prices for cattle, hogs, milk, soybeans, and wheat. Lower prices for citrus, broilers, potatoes and apples were partially offsetting. The index was 40 points (23 percent) above a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates for October 15 was 224, up 1 point ($\frac{1}{2}$ percent) from mid-September. Higher prices for feeder livestock and family living items accounted for most of the increase. Feed and building and fencing materials also showed some gains while fertilizer prices were lower. The October index was 23 points (11 percent) above a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	Oct. 15 1975	Oct. 15 1976	Oct. 15 1977	Sep. 15 1978	Oct. 15 1978
<u>NORTH CAROLINA</u>					
Prices Received: All Farm Products....	<u>3/</u> 183	<u>3/</u> 170	<u>3/</u> 175	<u>3/</u> 209	191
All Crops.....	<u>3/</u> 170	<u>3/</u> 170	<u>3/</u> 175	<u>3/</u> 210	204
Tobacco.....	<u>3/</u> 161	173	174	215	205
Cotton.....	<u>3/</u> 194	-	-	-	-
Oil Bearing.....	<u>3/</u> 187	205	<u>3/</u> 201	219	224
Grains.....	203	172	<u>3/</u> 130	<u>3/</u> 153	164
Commercial Vegetables.....	<u>3/</u> 162	<u>3/</u> 155	178	<u>3/</u> 211	187
Fruits.....	<u>3/</u> 178	<u>3/</u> 196	217	244	236
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	<u>3/</u> 207	<u>3/</u> 171	176	<u>3/</u> 208	170
Meat Animals.....	<u>3/</u> 248	<u>3/</u> 163	184	248	252
Poultry.....	199	176	173	199	125
Dairy.....	<u>3/</u> 169	<u>3/</u> 169	<u>3/</u> 172	<u>3/</u> 176	178
<u>UNITED STATES</u>					
Prices Received: All Farm Products....	<u>3/</u> 195	178	<u>3/</u> 177	<u>3/</u> 215	217
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services <u>1/</u> .	<u>3/</u> 184	192	201	<u>3/</u> 223	224
Parity Ratio <u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 106	93	89	96	97

1/ Including Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. 3/ Revised.

CROP, LIVESTOCK, FEED PRICES MIXED

The average prices received for crops by North Carolina farmers at local markets about mid-October were higher compared to a month earlier. (See Table, Page 3.) Corn was up 16 cents per bushel to \$2.27.

Prices received for livestock were mixed in October. Hogs increased \$2.00 per hundredweight to \$50.40. Beef cattle were down slightly to \$44.20 per hundredweight from \$45.00 the previous month. Veal calves were also down \$3.60 per hundredweight from September, while milk cows rose \$10.00 per head to \$440.00.

Prices the state's farmers had to pay for feed during October were mixed. (See Table, Page 3.) Chick starter and turkey grower were \$1.00 higher, while broiler grower was lower and laying feed remained unchanged. Mixed dairy feed with 16 and 20 percent protein remained unchanged while 18 percent protein was \$7.00 per ton higher and 32 percent protein was down \$4.00 per ton.

In the high protein category, cottonseed meal (41 percent protein) was down \$1.00 per hundredweight, while soybean meal (44 percent protein) was up \$1.00 per hundredweight from the previous month.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		Oct. 15 1977	Sep. 15 1978	Oct. 15 1978*	Oct. 15 1977	Sep. 15 1978	Oct. 15 1978*
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	1.142	1.419	1.354	1.154	1.412	1.353
Corn.....	Bu.	1.77	2.11	2.27	1.67	1.98	1.97
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.30	2.92	3.04
Oats.....	Bu.	1.38	-	-	1.02	1.08	1.14
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	1.63	1.84	1.81
Sorghum Grains..	Cwt.	-	-	-	2.80	3.23	3.30
Soybeans.....	Bu.	5.85	-	-	5.28	6.19	6.41
Peanuts.....	Lb.	.205	-	.220	.209	.212	.215
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.531	.559	.579
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.713	.778	.786
Hogs.....	Cwt.	39.80	48.40	50.40	39.90	47.60	51.10
Beef Cattle.....	Cwt.	25.80	45.00	44.20	35.10	51.60	53.20
Veal Calves.....	Cwt.	33.10	62.30	58.70	37.20	65.40	66.60
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	355.00	430.00	440.00	516.00	658.00	689.00
Com'l. Broilers..	Lb.	.230	.275	.240	.227	.267	.248
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.390	.400	.400	.365	.435	.451
Eggs \angle	Doz.	.598	.653	.626	.478	.537	.523
Milk, Whlse.....	Cwt.	11.00	11.30	11.40	10.10	10.90	11.20
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	6.20	8.90	7.35	3.11	3.61	3.03
Sweet Potatoes..	Cwt.	6.90	8.00	5.50	7.82	9.65	7.28
Apples, Com'l... Hay, All..... Alfalfa Hay.... Other.....	Lb. Ton Ton Ton	.115 - - -	.120 - - -	.112 - - -	.127 48.20 49.90 44.00	.158 47.80 50.10 41.60	.136 47.60 50.40 40.90

\angle Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers. * Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	Oct. 15 1977	Sep. 15 1978	Oct. 15 1978	Oct. 15 1977	Sep. 15 1978	Oct. 15 1978
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed						
14% Protein.....	129.00	-	-	119.00	128.00	130.00
16% Protein.....	134.00	144.00	144.00	125.00	137.00	138.00
18% Protein.....	-	142.00	149.00	-	146.00	149.00
20% Protein.....	-	150.00	150.00	-	145.00	150.00
32% Protein.....	193.00	196.00	192.00	181.00	201.00	203.00
Poultry Feeds						
Chick Starter.....	164.00	176.00	177.00	158.00	173.00	172.00
Broiler Grower....	166.00	176.00	172.00	153.00	168.00	169.00
Laying Feed \angle	141.00	152.00	152.00	135.00	149.00	150.00
Turkey Grower \angle	187.00	195.00	196.00	168.00	180.00	183.00
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products						
Bran.....	7.40	7.40	7.60	6.88	7.13	7.28
Middlings.....	6.90	7.30	7.40	6.72	7.02	7.23
Corn Meal.....	5.50	6.10	6.10	5.03	5.76	5.82
High Protein Feeds						
Cottonseed Meal 41%.	13.00	13.00	12.00	10.00	10.70	10.90
Soybean Meal 44%....	11.50	12.00	12.50	10.70	11.50	11.80

\angle Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

CHICK HATCH SLIGHTLY UP

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 29.0 million broiler-type chicks during September 1978. Conversely, egg-type chicks at 440 thousand is down 27 percent from September 1977.

For the Nation, the September hatch of broiler-type chicks at 296 million was 6 percent more than September 1977. Egg-type chicks hatched during September 1978 totaled 37.2 million, virtually the same as a year ago.

CHICKS HATCHED -- SEPTEMBER

STATE	BROILER-TYPE		1978 AS % OF 1977	EGG-TYPE		1978 AS % OF 1977
	1977	1978		1977	1978	
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>
North Carolina	28,710	28,968	101	600	440	73
South Carolina	3,012	3,590	119	522	695	133
Georgia	40,427	45,604	113	3,809	3,368	88
Florida	6,812	7,487	110	3,395	3,030	89
Delaware	12,606	12,644	100	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-
Maryland	16,161	16,852	104	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-
Virginia	8,792	10,141	115	660	435	66
UNITED STATES	280,023	296,463	106	37,394	37,246	100

1/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

U. S. TURKEY HATCH UP 23 PERCENT

The hatch of 5.61 million turkey poults during September was 23 percent above a year ago. The hatch of heavy breeds was up 22 percent from September 1977 and the light breed hatch was up 39 percent.

The 8.56 million turkey eggs in incubators on October 1, 1978 were up 19 percent from a year earlier. Eggs set for heavy breed turkeys were up 24

percent from last year, but light breeds were down 14 percent.

Heavy breed turkeys in flocks tested for pullorum-typhoid totaled 353 thousand, a decrease of 6 percent from September 1977. Testings for July through September were 844 thousand, up 14 percent from the same period a year ago.

ALL TURKEYS

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	EGGS IN INCUBATORS OCTOBER 1			POULTS HATCHED DURING SEPTEMBER		
	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	120	126	105	28	13	46
East North Central	725	1,443	199	649	812	125
West North Central	2,022	2,154	107	1,049	1,464	140
South Atlantic	2,802	3,168	113	1,848	2,331	126
South Central	426	593	139	351	328	93
West	1,121	1,077	96	624	661	106
UNITED STATES	7,216	8,561	119	4,549	5,609	123

SEPTEMBER EGG PRODUCTION UP

Egg production on North Carolina farms during September was estimated at 284 million, an increase of 8 percent from September a year earlier. The number of hens and pullets of lay-

ing age on hand was 14.3 million compared to 13.1 million in September 1977. The rate of lay per 100 layers on hand during September averaged 1,983, a decrease of 30 eggs from September 1977.

NUMBER OF LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- SEPTEMBER

STATE	LAYERS ON HAND		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		TOTAL EGGS PRODUCED	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
North Carolina	13,100	14,325	2,013	1,983	264	284
Virginia	3,544	3,890	1,935	1,935	69	75
South Carolina	5,118	5,480	2,040	2,091	104	115
Georgia	24,270	25,000	1,896	1,968	460	492
Florida	12,524	12,627	1,953	1,938	245	245
UNITED STATES	276,877	277,207	1,919	1,953	5,312	5,415

GRAIN STOCKS *(Cont'd. From Page 1)*

els, 109 percent more than a year earlier. Oats in storage totaled 658 million bushels, 3 percent below a year earlier. Barley stocks totaled 465 million bushels, 15 percent above a year earlier.

All wheat stocks on October 1 a-

mounted to 2.11 billion bushels, 12 percent less than last year's record high 2.40 million bushels.

Rye stocks in all positions totaled 25.2 million bushels, 74 percent larger than last year's stocks of 14.5 million bushels.

STOCKS OF GRAIN -- OCTOBER 1

CROP	OFF-FARM TOTAL //		ON-FARM TOTAL		TOTAL ALL POSITIONS	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thousand Bushels</i>					
<u>NORTH CAROLINA</u>						
Corn (Old Crop)	825	545	5,264	1,293	6,089	1,838
Wheat	2,688	2,910	1,380	1,488	4,068	4,398
Oats	625	1,748	1,386	2,051	2,011	3,799
Barley	171	680	924	1,384	1,095	2,064
Rye	*	105	192	197	*	302
Sorghum (Old Crop)	17	*	23	53	40	*
<u>UNITED STATES</u>						
Corn (Old Crop)	438,019	444,389	446,116	620,031	884,135	1,064,420
Wheat	1,365,322	1,104,318	1,032,236	1,006,329	2,397,558	2,110,647
Oats	115,459	114,858	559,293	542,715	674,752	657,573
Barley	139,334	130,761	264,005	333,944	403,339	464,705
Rye	4,074	6,772	10,393	18,435	14,467	25,207
Sorghum (Old Crop)	69,646	134,477	21,644	56,424	91,290	190,901

// Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.

* Unpublished to avoid disclosing individual operations.

CASH INCOME FROM FARM MARKETINGS -- NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES

ITEM	1976	1977
<i>Thousand Dollars</i>		
<u>NORTH CAROLINA</u>		
All Commodities.....	2,824,109	2,622,248
All Crops.....	1,755,975	1,554,421
Tobacco, All Types..	998,699	866,020
Corn.....	236,140	142,811
Soybeans.....	170,576	139,307
Peanuts.....	83,129	90,165
Cotton, Lint & Seed.	19,523	20,843
Vegetables.....	84,957	91,698
Fruits and Nuts.....	32,610	41,455
Other Crops <u>1/</u>	130,341	162,122
All Livestock.....	1,068,134	1,067,827
Hogs.....	254,786	206,159
Cattle and Calves...	72,983	62,857
Milk.....	161,912	174,386
Broilers.....	296,173	322,476
Chicken Eggs.....	154,751	162,285
Turkeys.....	99,365	110,062
Other Livestock.....	28,164	29,602
<i>Million Dollars</i>		
<u>UNITED STATES</u>		
All Commodities <u>2/</u>	94,501	96,084
All Crops.....	48,349	48,519
All Livestock.....	46,152	47,565

1/ Includes farm forest products, nursery, seeds, and other field crops.

2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

FARM INCOME: REALIZED GROSS AND NET INCOME
OF FARM OPERATORS FROM FARMING, 1975-77

YEAR	REALIZED GROSS FARM INCOME				
	Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings	Government Payments	Non-Money Income	Other Farm Income	Total

Million Dollars

1975	2,638.3	8.9	287.6	28.3	2,963.2
1976	2,824.1	7.8	306.3	31.1	3,169.3
1977	2,622.2	21.6	296.4	35.7	2,976.0

Farm Production Expenses	Realized Net Farm Income <u>1/</u>	Net Change In Farm Inventories	Total Net Farm Income <u>1/</u>
--------------------------------	--	--------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

Million Dollars

1975	1,926.8	1,036.5	- .9	1,035.5
1976	2,126.2	1,028.8	6.2	1,049.3
1977	2,186.6	789.3	8.3	797.7

1/ Of Farm Operators.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER *L/*

SPECIES	SEPTEMBER				JANUARY THROUGH SEPTEMBER			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
NORTH CAROLINA								
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	15.3	10.5	12,821	9,553	140.3	113.4	122,897	101,610
Calves	.6	.4	159	112	5.4	3.9	1,211	1,039
Sheep & Lambs	.1	-	6	-	.4	.6	37	56
Hogs	141.1	160.8	32,070	35,892	1,387.5	1,427.5	307,032	316,662
TOTAL	157.1	171.7	45,056	45,557	1,533.6	1,545.4	431,177	419,367
UNITED STATES								
	<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	3.6	3.2	3,619	3,350	31.3	29.8	32,098	30,700
Calves	.5	.3	117	75	4.1	3.2	1,024	788
Sheep & Lambs	.6	.5	61	50	4.9	4.1	523	450
Hogs	6.8	6.4	1,592	1,536	56.8	57.0	13,409	13,558
TOTAL	11.5	10.4	5,389	5,011	97.1	94.1	47,054	45,496

L/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

SEPTEMBER SLAUGHTER IN N. C. UP SLIGHTLY

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during September totaled 45.6 million pounds live weight, up 1 percent from September a year earlier. The number of head slaughtered increased 9 percent to 171,700.

Cattle slaughtered were down 25 percent to 9.6 million pounds live weight. Calf slaughtered dropped 30 percent to 112,000 pounds live weight. Hog kill at 35.9 million pounds live weight increased 12 percent above the previous year's kill, thus accounting for the overall increase from September a year earlier.

The average live weight per head for cattle slaughtered during September was 912 pounds, up 73 pounds from September a year earlier. The average live weight for calves increased 49 pounds to 297. Hog average live weight at 223 pounds was down 4 pounds from September 1977.

Red meat production in North Carolina during September 1978 at 30.6 mil-

lion pounds, was 5 percent above September 1977.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in September 1978 totaled 3.14 billion pounds, down 6 percent from September 1977. January-September total red meat output at 28.3 billion pounds was 3 percent below last year...change by individual components: beef, down 4 percent; veal, down 21; pork, up 1; lamb and mutton, down 14 percent. Commercial red meat production includes slaughter in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Beef production at 1.97 billion pounds was down 7 percent. Head kill was down 10 percent while average live weight increased 27 pounds to 1,040.

Veal production at 45 million pounds declined 37 percent from a year ago. Calf slaughter of 315 thousand head was down 34 percent and average live weight dropped 9 pounds.

(Cont'd. on Page 8)

Pork production totaled 1.10 billion pounds, down 3 percent. The 6.44 million head killed was down 5 percent while average live weight increased 4 pounds to 239. Preliminary lard production was 82 million pounds, down 9

percent from last year.

Lamb and mutton production declined 17 percent to 25 million pounds. Head kill at 455 thousand was down 23 percent while average live weight rose 7 pounds to 110.

PRICE INDEX (Cont'd. From Page 1)

Prices paid by farmers for dairy feed was mixed with 18 percent protein feed higher and 32 percent protein feed lower and 16 percent feed unchanged from a month earlier. Poultry feeds were higher than a year earlier and only slightly higher than a month earlier.

Grain by-products, bran middlings

and corn meal were higher than the previous year by 20 cents, 50 cents and 60 cents per hundredweight respectively. The high protein feeds, cottonseed meal 41% was down \$1.00 from the previous year while soybean meal was up \$1.00 per hundredweight from the previous year.

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Agricultural Statistician

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U.S. Department of Agriculture / N.C. Department of Agriculture

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NOVEMBER 1 CROP HIGHLIGHTS

NORTH CAROLINA

FLUE-CURED production up 13% from 1977.
BURLEY production down 14% from last year.

CORN production 38% above 1977.

SOYBEAN production record high, 32% above a year earlier.

PEANUT production up 1% from 1977.

COTTON production record low, 25% below last year.

UNITED STATES

FLUE-CURED production up 8% from 1977.
BURLEY production up 1% from last year.
CORN production record high, up 8% from 1977.

SOYBEAN production record high, up 3% from year earlier.

PEANUT production 7% above 1977.

COTTON production down 24% from last year.

FLUE-CURED POUNDAGE UP

Flue-cured tobacco production in North Carolina is estimated at 814.5 million pounds. This is up slightly from the 812 million pounds forecast a month earlier and up 13% from the 1977 production. The average yield per acre for all flue-cured is 2,088 pounds, 205 pounds more than last year's average. Acreage harvested is estimated at 390,000 acres, 2% more than last year. Markets in the Border Belt held last sales for the season on October 31 and Eastern Belt Markets closed November 14. Markets in the Old and Middle Belt are expected to hold clean-up sales about November 22. See table on page 2 for detailed information on each flue-cured type.

Flue-cured output in the U. S. is estimated at 1.22 billion pounds, 8 percent above 1977. The higher pro-

duction is due to an increase in yields. Yield per acre is forecast at 2,071 pounds compared with 1,917 a year earlier. Sales of flue-cured tobacco were about complete in North Carolina and Virginia, and were completed earlier in South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

N. C. BURLEY CROP SMALLER

Burley tobacco production in North Carolina is forecast at 20.2 million pounds. This is up 1% from the earlier forecast but 14% below last year's crop. Yield per acre is forecast at 2,375 pounds, 75 pounds below last year's average. Acreage harvested is estimated at 8,500 acres compared with 9,600 in 1977.

U. S. burley production is forecast at 623 million pounds, virtually the same as October 1, but 1 percent above the 1977 crop. Weather conditions during September and October were favorable for housing and curing in most States. Stripping has been delayed by dry weather across the Belt. Markets are scheduled to open November 20.

CORN FORECAST UNCHANGED

Corn production in North Carolina is forecast at 119 million bushels, up 38% from 1977. The average yield per acre at 77 bushels is unchanged from the October 1 forecast. Corn harvest was nearing completion by October 31. See table on page 2 for acreage, yield and production by Crop Reporting District.

U. S. production of corn for grain is forecast at a record 6.89 billion bushels. This is 1 percent above the

(See Corn, Page 2)

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO, BY TYPE, NOVEMBER 1, 1978

STATE	TYPE	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978	1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978	1976	1977	Indi- cated 1978
		<i>Thousands</i>			<i>Pounds</i>			<i>Thousand Pounds</i>		
Virginia	11	70.0	61.0	56.0	1,780	1,795	1,875	124,600	109,495	105,000
N. C.	11	185.0	160.0	155.0	1,830	1,770	1,875	338,550	283,200	290,621
N. C.	12	203.0	177.0	186.0	2,140	1,955	2,250	434,420	346,035	418,500
N. C.	13	51.0	46.0	49.0	2,160	1,995	2,150	110,160	91,770	105,350
N.C. Total	11-13	439.0	383.0	390.0	2,012	1,883	2,088	883,130	721,005	814,471
S. C.	13	75.0	68.0	70.0	2,045	2,040	2,150	153,375	138,720	150,500
Georgia	14	68.0	65.0	61.0	1,820	2,075	2,050	123,760	134,875	125,050
Florida	14	14.0	11.7	11.0	2,160	2,100	2,050	30,240	24,570	22,550
Alabama	14	.6	.6	.5	1,800	1,900	1,800	1,152	1,045	930
U.S. TOTAL	11-14	666.6	589.3	588.5	1,974	1,917	2,071	1,316,257	1,129,710	1,218,511

CORN (Cont'd. From Page 1)

October 1 forecast and 8 percent above the previous record set last year.

Average yield is forecast at a record 101.2 bushels per acre, up 0.5 bushel from last month's forecast and up 10.2 bushels from last year. The previous record yield of 97.0 bushels per acre was set in 1972. Yield changes from last month in the major States included a 4 bushel increase in Minnesota and Nebraska, a 3 bushel increase in Missouri and a 2 bushel increase in Iowa. These increases were only partially offset by a two bushel

drop in Illinois and one bushel decline in Indiana and Ohio.

Acreage for grain at 68.1 million acres is 3 percent below last year but up 300 thousand acres from October 1 as acreage in South Dakota intended for harvest as silage is being harvested for grain.

The corn harvest continued to progress rapidly as farmers took advantage of the open fall weather. By the end of October almost three-fourths of the crop had been harvested, ahead of last year and the average.

NORTH CAROLINA CORN ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION BY DISTRICTS, NOVEMBER 1, 1978 WITH COMPARISONS

DISTRICT	Area Harvested			Yield Per Acre			Production		
	1976	1977	Ind. 1978	1976	1977	Ind. 1978	1976	1977	Ind. 1978
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>			<i>Bushels</i>			<i>1,000 Bushels</i>		
N. Mountain	48.9	43.0	37.0	63.8	44.1	73	3,119	1,895	2,700
W. Mountain	33.8	29.0	28.0	67.3	53.7	70	2,275	1,557	1,961
N. Piedmont	118.4	106.0	97.0	45.1	29.6	66	5,345	3,135	6,400
C. Piedmont	101.5	85.0	90.0	57.5	26.9	70	5,840	2,290	6,300
S. Piedmont	88.4	68.0	68.0	71.6	27.2	66	6,331	1,852	4,490
N. Coastal	467.8	415.0	385.0	90.1	71.2	88	42,161	29,536	33,880
C. Coastal	565.9	524.0	455.0	85.0	50.0	78	48,092	26,212	35,490
S. Coastal	455.3	420.0	380.0	81.8	46.9	72	37,237	19,713	27,360
N. Carolina	1,880.0	1,690.0	1,540.0	80.0	51.0	77	150,400	86,190	118,580

CORN CROPPING PRACTICES

The Statistics Unit of ESCS collects objective information on corn development during the production forecast period. Counts and measurements are made by trained enumerators during visits to random plots in a scientific sampling of fields in States which accounted for 95 percent of the 1978 corn production. Information in the corn table represents sample data and the averages from these counts about October 1. The data, which are subject to some sampling fluctuation, are not official Crop Reporting Board estimates but do show trends in corn cropping practices over a period of years.

The trend in plant population per acre continued upward in 1978. Ten States showed increases, one no change, and seven declined, but the increases far outweighed the decreases.

CORN FOR GRAIN: Plant Population Per Acre For Selected States

STATE	1974	1976	1978
<i>Number Of Plants</i>			
Colorado	21,000	21,400	23,300
Georgia	11,600	12,900	14,100
Illinois	18,600	20,100	19,600
Indiana	18,700	19,500	19,300
Iowa	18,600	18,800	19,800
Kansas	18,000	18,700	20,600
Kentucky	15,400	16,100	17,000
Michigan	16,900	16,200	18,600
Minnesota	18,200	18,000	20,000
Missouri	15,500	14,500	15,100
Nebraska	16,400	16,700	19,000
N. CAROLINA	16,900	17,000	17,300
Ohio	18,900	18,600	19,900
Pennsylvania	16,500	17,300	18,500
S. Dakota	12,800	12,600	13,300
Virginia	16,400	17,500	16,700
Wisconsin	18,500	18,200	20,100

CORN FOR GRAIN: Percentage Distribution By Row Width and Average Row Width For North Carolina, 1976-1978

YEAR	Number Of Samples	ROW WIDTH (Inches) <u>1/</u>							Average Row Width
		30.5 or Less	30.6- 32.5	32.6- 34.5	34.6- 36.5	36.6- 38.5	38.6- 40.5	40.6 & Greater	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent Of Samples</i>							<i>Inches</i>
1976	127	6.3	1.6	1.6	19.7	35.4	21.2	14.2	37.8
1977	104	3.8	1.0	1.0	18.3	37.5	25.0	13.4	37.9
1978	101	1.0	2.0	3.0	25.7	37.6	23.8	6.9	37.6

1/ Spacings based on row measurements in sample plots selected for objective yield determinations.

MEASURED ROW SPACING OF SOYBEANS: Percent Distribution and Average Width For North Carolina, 1975-1978 1/

YEAR	Number Of Samples	ROW WIDTH GROUPS (Inches)			Average Width
		28.5 & Less <u>2/</u>	28.6- 34.5	34.6 & Greater	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent Of Samples</i>			<i>Inches</i>
1975	62	10.5	4.0	85.5	36.1
1976	63	19.9	7.1	73.0	34.1
1977	67	17.1	6.6	76.3	34.2
1978	69	19.0	8.0	73.0	33.5

1/ Based on row measurements in plots selected for objective yield samples and are not official estimates of the Crop Reporting Board but are intended to show trends in soybean production practices. 2/ Includes soybeans planted with a grain drill.

NORTH CAROLINA: Estimated Acreage, Yield and Production Of Crops, November 1, 1978, With Comparisons

CROPS	UNIT	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
		Thousands								
Corn for Grain.....	Bu.	1,880	1,690	1,540	80.0	51.0	77.0	150,400	86,190	118,580
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	240	200	175	29.0	30.0	34.0	6,960	6,000	5,950
Oats.....	Bu.	80	75	90	47.0	42.0	53.0	3,760	3,150	4,770
Barley.....	Bu.	60	55	59	39.0	40.0	51.0	2,340	2,200	3,009
Rye.....	Bu.	20	21	26	19.0	19.0	21.0	380	399	546
Tobacco: Flue-Cured....	Lb.	439.0	383.0	390.0	2,012	1,883	2,088	883,130	721,005	814,475
Burley.....	Lb.	9.0	9.6	8.5	2,200	2,450	2,375	19,800	23,520	20,188
All Types.....	Lb.	448.0	392.6	398.5	2,015	1,896	2,095	902,930	744,525	834,663
Cotton <u>L</u> /.....	Lb.	71	83	41	489	305	468	72	53	40
Sorghum for Grain.....	Bu.	90	72	79	51.0	37.0	52.0	4,590	2,664	4,108
Irish Potatoes: Spring..	Cwt.	13.0	13.4	13.0	145	165	145	1,885	2,211	1,885
Summer..	Cwt.	4.0	4.0	4.0	125	125	125	500	500	500
All.....	Cwt.	17.0	17.4	17.0	140	156	140	2,385	2,711	2,385
Sweet Potatoes.....	Cwt.	33.0	33.0	37.0	130	135	140	4,290	4,455	5,180
Soybeans for Beans.....	Bu.	1,120	1,320	1,600	22.0	22.0	24.0	24,640	29,040	38,400
Peanuts for Nuts.....	Lb.	166	166	166	2,655	2,675	2,700	400,730	444,050	448,200
Hay: Alfalfa & Mixtures.	Ton	15	16	17	2.70	2.30	2.70	41	37	46
All Other.....	Ton	335	334	343	1.40	1.45	1.55	469	484	532
All Kinds.....	Ton	350	350	360	1.46	1.49	1.61	510	521	578
Pasture Condition <u>2</u> /....	%	<u>3</u> / 81	73	68	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peaches, All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,000	35,000	40,000
Apples, Commercial.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	265,000	270,000	295,000
Grapes, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.58	4.65	4.70
Pecans, Improved.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,900	1,100	1,900
Wild & Seedlings	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	900	900	1,100
All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,800	2,000	3,000

\angle Production in 480 lb. NWB. \angle Data shown for pastures represent condition, not acres. \angle 1967-76 average condition

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The following table replaces Page 5 of the November 17, 1978 issue of
'North Carolina Farm Report'.

UNITED STATES: Estimated Acreage, Yield and Production of Crops, November 1, 1978, With Comparisons

CROPS	UNIT	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
		<i>Thousands</i>						<i>Thousands</i>		
Corn for Grain.....	Bu.	71,300	70,006	67,764	87.9	91.0	101.2	6,266,359	6,370,624	6,890,310
Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	49,460	48,419	38,846	31.5	31.5	32.0	1,559,923	1,526,713	1,243,685
Wheat, All.....	Bu.	70,771	66,216	56,532	30.3	30.6	31.5	2,142,362	2,025,793	1,778,360
Oats.....	Bu.	11,946	13,447	11,951	45.7	55.6	49.9	546,315	747,914	595,879
Barley.....	Bu.	8,297	9,490	9,106	44.9	43.8	48.1	372,461	415,803	438,429
Rye.....	Bu.	721	694	1,070	20.7	24.5	26.7	14,951	16,998	28,567
Tobacco: Flue-cured.....	Lb.	666.6	589.3	588.5	1,974	1,917	2,071	1,316,257	1,129,710	1,218,511
Burley.....	Lb.	285.8	268.5	259.3	2,376	2,298	2,401	678,976	616,929	622,503
All Types.....	Lb.	1,044.5	957.7	944.5	2,045	1,997	2,118	2,135,829	1,912,417	2,007,858
Cotton <u>1</u> /.....	Lb.	10,914	13,279	12,294	465	520	429	10,581	14,389	10,981
Sorghum for Grain.....	Bu.	14,723	14,065	13,446	48.9	56.2	52.4	719,817	790,647	704,134
Irish Potatoes: Spring..	Cwt.	98.4	91.4	90.7	251	250	199	24,722	22,870	18,028
Summer..	Cwt.	118.7	115.2	112.2	190	191	187	22,541	21,982	21,013
All.....	Cwt.	1,374.5	1,358.7	1,362.2	260	261	262	357,674	354,576	357,670
Sweet Potatoes.....	Cwt.	117.8	112.4	118.5	114	110	116	13,432	12,395	13,751*
Soybeans for Beans.....	Bu.	49,358	57,612	63,268	26.1	30.6	28.6	1,287,560	1,761,755	1,810,389*
Peanuts for Nuts.....	Lb.	1,522	1,516	1,516	2,465	2,457	2,626	3,750,890	3,726,015	3,979,620*
Hay: Alfalfa & Mixtures.	Ton	26,651	27,085	27,559	2.62	2.97	3.08	69,828	80,430	84,750
All Other.....	Ton	33,660	33,408	33,695	1.49	1.52	1.61	50,178	50,627	54,409
All Kinds.....	Ton	60,311	60,493	61,254	1.99	2.17	2.27	120,006	131,057	139,159
Pasture Condition <u>2</u> /.....	%	<u>3</u> / 78	75	73	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peaches, All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,020,000	2,991,000	2,608,600
Apples, Commercial.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,479,200	6,655,600	7,383,500
Grapes, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,398	4,298	4,318
Pecans, Improved.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	77,300	137,900	137,500
Wild & Seedlings	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,800	98,700	74,800
All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	103,100	236,600	212,300

1/ U. S. includes American-Pima. Production in 480-lb. NWB. 2/ Data shown for pastures represent condition, not acres.
3/ 1967-76 average condition on November 1.

*Corrected Figure.



UNITED STATES: Estimated Acreage, Yield and Production of Crops, November 1, 1978, With Comparisons

CROPS	UNIT	HARVESTED ACRES			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
		1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978	1976	1977	Indicated 1978
		Thousands						Thousands		
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Wheat, Winter.....	Bu.	49,460	48,419	38,846	31.5	31.5	32.0	1,559,923	1,526,713	1,243,685
Wheat, All.....	Bu.	70,771	66,216	56,532	30.3	30.6	31.5	2,142,362	2,025,793	1,778,360
Oats.....	Bu.	11,946	13,447	11,951	45.7	55.6	49.9	546,315	747,914	595,879
Barley.....	Bu.	8,297	9,490	9,106	44.9	43.8	48.1	372,461	415,803	438,429
Rye.....	Bu.	721	694	1,070	20.7	24.5	26.7	14,951	16,998	28,567
Tobacco: Flue-cured.....	Lb.	666.6	589.3	588.5	1,974	1,917	2,071	1,316,257	1,129,710	1,218,511
Burley.....	Lb.	285.8	268.5	259.3	2,376	2,298	2,401	678,976	616,929	622,503
All Types.....	Lb.	1,044.5	957.7	944.5	2,045	1,997	2,118	2,135,829	1,912,417	2,007,858
Cotton <u>L</u>	Lb.	10,914	13,279	12,294	465	520	429	10,581	14,389	10,981
Sorghum for Grain.....	Bu.	14,723	14,065	13,446	48.9	56.2	52.4	719,817	790,647	704,134
Irish Potatoes: Spring..	Cwt.	98.4	91.4	90.7	251	250	199	24,722	22,870	18,028
Summer..	Cwt.	118.7	115.2	112.2	190	191	187	22,541	21,982	21,013
All.....	Cwt.	1,374.5	1,358.7	1,362.2	260	261	262	357,674	354,576	357,670
Sweet Potatoes.....	Cwt.	117.8	112.4	118.5	114	110	116	13,432	12,395	1,810,389
Soybeans for Beans.....	Bu.	49,358	57,612	63,268	26.1	30.6	28.6	1,287,560	1,761,755	3,979,620
Peanuts for Nuts.....	Lb.	1,522	1,516	1,516	2,465	2,457	2,626	3,750,890	3,726,015	3,952,570
Hay: Alfalfa & Mixtures.	Ton	26,651	27,085	27,559	2.62	2.97	3.08	69,828	80,430	84,750
All Other.....	Ton	33,660	33,408	33,695	1.49	1.52	1.61	50,178	50,627	54,409
All Kinds.....	Ton	60,311	60,493	61,254	1.99	2.17	2.27	120,006	131,057	139,159
Pasture Condition <u>2</u> /.....	%	<u>3</u> / 78	75	73	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peaches, All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,020,000	2,991,000	2,608,600
Apples, Commercial.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,479,200	6,655,600	7,383,500
Grapes, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,398	4,298	4,318
Pecans, Improved.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	77,300	137,900	137,500
Wild & Seedlings	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,800	98,700	74,800
All.....	Lb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	103,100	236,600	212,300

1 U. S. includes American-Pima. Production in 480-lb. NWB. 2 Data shown for pastures represent condition, not acres.
3 1967-76 average condition on November 1.

RECORD SOYBEAN CROP

Soybean production in North Carolina is forecast at a record high 38.4 million bushels. This is the same as forecast a month earlier but 32% more than last year's production of 29.0 million bushels. The yield per acre is expected to average 24 bushels, 2 bushels more than the 1977 average. Acreage for harvest is estimated at a record high 1.6 million acres, 21% more than last year. Harvest was about 50% complete as of November 11, well ahead of both last year and average.

U. S. soybean production is now forecast at a record 1.81 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month, and 3 percent above the previous record high set last year. Yield per acre is indicated at 28.6 bushels, down 2.0 bushels from last year.

Yield prospects in the North Central area decreased by 1 bushel from a month ago in Illinois, Kansas and Michigan. However, prospects increased by 3 bushels in Minnesota and by 1 bushel in Iowa and Missouri. Ohio, Indiana and Nebraska remained unchanged from last month. As of November 1, harvesting progress in the North Central States, at about 87 percent, was ahead of last year and the average.

N. C. SOYBEAN VARIETIES--1978

Ransom, the leading soybean variety in North Carolina, accounted for 54% of the acreage in 1978 compared with 36% in 1977. Bragg was in second place with 18% of the acreage compared with 29% in 1977. Forrest remained the third most important variety with 7% of the acreage compared with 9% the previous year. Other varieties and their percentage of acreage are Lee 6%, York 4%, Hampton 2%, Bassier, Davis, Essex and Pickett 1% each and all other varieties 5%.

PEANUTS UP 1 PERCENT

Peanut production in North Carolina is forecast at 448 million pounds, 4% more than forecast a month earlier and 1% more than last year. The yield per acre is expected to average 2,700 pounds, 25 pounds more than last year. Acreage for harvest is unchanged from last year at 166,000 acres. Harvest was nearing completion by October 31. The dry weather during September apparently affected yields less than growers anticipated around October 1.

Peanut production in the U. S. is forecast at a record high 3.98 billion pounds net weight, up 1 percent from the October 1 forecast and 7 percent above the 3.73 billion pounds produced last year. The expected yield of 2,626 pounds per acre is up 18 pounds from last month and up 169 pounds from last year. Acres for harvest remain at 1.52 million acres.

COTTON FORECAST HIGHER

Cotton production in North Carolina is forecast at 40,000 bales. This is up 5,000 bales from the previous forecast but still a record low and 25% below last year. The yield per acre is expected to average 468 pounds, 163 pounds more than last year's output. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 41,000 acres, 51% less than in 1977. Harvest is about four-fifths complete.

All cotton production is forecast at 11.0 million bales (480 lbs. net weight) as of November 1, 24 percent below 1977 production but 1 percent above the October 1 forecast. Expected production consists of 10.9 million bales of Upland cotton and 85.1 thousand bales of American-Pima. Cottonseed production in 1978, based on a three year average lint-seed ratio, is forecast at 4.25 million tons, 23 percent below 1977.

Growers expect to harvest 12.3 million acres of all cotton this year, 7 percent below 1977 and virtually unchanged from the October 1 estimate. Average lint yield per harvested acre is forecast at 429 pounds, 91 pounds below 1977.

N. C. BLUEBERRY PRODUCTION UP 40 PERCENT

Blueberry production in North Carolina is estimated at 714,000 flats (12 pints or 11 pounds per flat) for 1978. This year's crop is 40 percent larger than the 510,000 flats produced in 1977. Acreage harvested in 1978 is estimated at 3,400 acres, the same as last year. The yield per harvested acre this season averaged 210 flats compared with 150 flats in 1977.

The average price received by growers for all berries was \$6.45 per flat compared with \$6.40 a year earlier. About 51% of the production was sold for processing this year compared with 36% last year. The total value of production for the 1978 crop is \$4.6 million, up 41% from the \$3.3 million in 1977.

NORTH CAROLINA BLUEBERRIES, Harvested Acres, Yield, Production, Price and Value (1974-1978)

YEAR	Harvested Acres	Flats Per Acre	Flats Produced	Average Price To Growers (All Sales)	Value \angle
			<i>Thous.</i>	<i>\$ Per Flat</i>	<i>Thous. Dols.</i>
1974	3,700	140	518	4.60	2,377
1975	3,900	175	683	5.05	3,449
1976	3,400	40	136	7.40	1,004
1977	3,400	150	510	6.40	3,264
1978	3,400	210	714	6.45	4,617

\angle Includes value of flats used in the farm household or given away.

SUMMER VEGETABLES PRODUCTION UP 5 PERCENT

Production of 7 fresh market vegetables in North Carolina during the summer quarter of 1978 (July, August,

September) is estimated at 2,151,000 cwt. compared with 2,052,000 cwt. for the same period in 1977.

NORTH CAROLINA VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET, Summer Quarter

CROP	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		Value Of Production	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Acres</i>		<i>Cwt.</i>		<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>		<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	
Snap Beans	3,700	3,800	36	45	133	171	3,405	4,275
Cabbage	2,600	2,900	185	180	481	522	2,064	4,275
Sweet Corn	4,900	4,900	60	53	294	260	2,102	2,353
Cucumbers	3,800	4,800	58	55	220	264	1,894	3,036
Green Peppers	7,000	6,700	37	37	259	248	3,134	5,010
Tomatoes	2,000	2,000	140	135	280	270	4,760	3,969
Watermelons	7,000	7,300	55	57	385	416	1,286	1,331

OCTOBER MILK PRODUCTION DOWN

October milk production in North Carolina totaled an estimated 129 million pounds, down 9 percent from production in October 1977. Pounds of milk produced per cow was estimated at 910 pounds, down 20 pounds from the same period last year. The number of milk cows on farms, including dry cows

was estimated at 142,000 head, 9 percent less than October 1977. An extended dry period during October was partially responsible for the lowered production. Pastures were badly in need of moisture throughout most of the state.

MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION -- OCTOBER 1978

STATE	Milk Cows On Farms //	Milk Per Cow	MILK PRODUCTION	
			Pounds	1978 As % Of 1977
	Thousands	Pounds	Millions	Percent
NORTH CAROLINA.	142	910	129	91
Virginia.....	174	930	162	99
Maryland.....	134	950	127	97
Georgia.....	129	815	105	99
Florida.....	197	765	151	97
UNITED STATES..	10,837	906	9,818	100

// Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

N. Carl Cross
Agricultural Statistician

Dan C. Tucker
Statistician In Charge

U.S. Department of Agriculture / N.C. Department of Agriculture

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CROP, LIVESTOCK, FEED PRICES UP

The average prices received for crops by North Carolina farmers at local markets about mid-November were higher compared to a month earlier. (See Table, Page 3.) Corn was up 6 cents per bushel, oats, 5 cents per bushel, soybeans, 20 cents per bushel. Also prices for all of these commodities were higher than the previous year except oats. Sweet potatoes were up \$3.50 per hundredweight above last month.

Prices received for livestock in November were also higher except hogs at \$48.90 per hundredweight were down \$1.50. Beef cattle and veal calves were up \$1.30 and \$4.30 respectively. Milk cows remained unchanged while milk increased 10 cents per hundredweight. For poultry, commercial broilers, turkeys and eggs were higher than the previous month.

Prices the state's farmers had to pay for feed during November were mostly higher. (See Table, Page 3.) Mixed dairy feed with 16 percent protein at \$150.00 per ton was \$6.00 per ton higher than October while dairy feed with 18 and 20 percent protein was unchanged. Mixed dairy with 32 percent protein also rose \$6.00 per ton to \$198.00. Poultry feeds also climbed above the October price led by a \$10.00 per ton increase in chick starter, followed by increases of \$11.00, \$8.00 and \$3.00 per ton for broiler grower, laying feed and turkey grower.

In the high protein category, cottonseed meal (41 percent protein) was up 50 cents per hundredweight, while soybean meal (44 percent protein) was unchanged from the previous month.

NOVEMBER PRICE INDEX DOWN

The 'All Farm Products' index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets during November is 188 (1967 = 100), down 3 points from October but up 16 points from November 1977. The November 'All Crops' index at 196 was down 7 points from the previous month but up 24 points from a year earlier. Oil bearing crops and grains were up 5 and 4 points respectively from the previous month and 17 points each above November 1977.

The 'Livestock and Livestock Products' index was up 2 points above October and the same as November 1977. Meat animals were down 2 points below last month but was up 70 points above November 1977. Poultry was up 5 points from last month but was 39 points below November 1977. The dairy index was up 2 points to 186.

(See Price Index, Page 2.)

OCTOBER EGG PRODUCTION UP

Egg production on North Carolina farms during October was estimated at 294 million, an increase of 3 percent from October 1977. The number of hens and pullets of laying age on hand during October was estimated at 14.6 million, one million more than was estimated on hand the same time last year. The rate of lay per 100 layers on hand during October averaged 2,018, a decrease of 78 eggs from the October 1977 rate.

(See Table, Page 5.)

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DOWN 3 POINTS PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The November Index of Prices Received by Farmers decreased 3 points (1½ percent) to 214 percent of its January-December 1967 average. Contributing most to the decrease since October were lower prices for hogs, cattle and citrus fruits. Higher prices for eggs, lettuce, milk, corn and wheat were partially offsetting. The index was 36 points (20 percent) above a year ago.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates for November 15 was 224, unchanged from mid-October. Higher prices for feed, autos and trucks, farm and motor supplies and family living items offset lower prices for feeder livestock. The November index was 22 points (11 percent) above a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARM PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX (1967 = 100)	Nov. 15 1975	Nov. 15 1976	Nov. 15 1977	Oct. 15 1978	Nov. 15 1978
NORTH CAROLINA					
Prices Received: All Farm Products....	<u>3/</u> 173	<u>3/</u> 168	172	191	188
All Crops.....	<u>3/</u> 159	<u>3/</u> 170	<u>3/</u> 172	<u>3/</u> 203	196
Tobacco.....	<u>3/</u> 150	164	166	205	191
Cotton.....	<u>3/</u> 203	-	-	-	-
Oil Bearing.....	<u>3/</u> 172	208	<u>3/</u> 203	<u>3/</u> 215	220
Grains.....	183	161	<u>3/</u> 154	<u>3/</u> 167	171
Commercial Vegetables.....	<u>3/</u> 169	<u>3/</u> 158	184	187	218
Fruits.....	<u>3/</u> 172	<u>3/</u> 190	212	236	253
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	<u>3/</u> 199	166	173	<u>3/</u> 171	173
Meat Animals.....	216	154	180	252	250
Poultry.....	199	171	169	125	130
Dairy.....	<u>3/</u> 170	<u>3/</u> 169	<u>3/</u> 175	<u>3/</u> 184	186
UNITED STATES					
Prices Received, All Farm Products.....	<u>3/</u> 184	173	<u>3/</u> 178	217	214
Prices Paid, Commodities & Services <u>1/</u> .	<u>3/</u> 184	<u>3/</u> 192	202	224	224
Parity Ratio <u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 100	90	88	97	96

1/ Including Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. 3/ Revised.

NORTH CAROLINA FARM LABOR FORCE UP SLIGHTLY

The number of workers on North Carolina farms during the week of October 8-14, 1978 was estimated at 122,000, less than 1% above the same quarter in 1977. The number of farm operators and unpaid family members dropped 1% to 79,000 when compared to the same period last year. All hired workers at 43,000 increased 5% from October 1977. (See Table, Page 6.) Farm labor estimates

are done on a quarterly basis.

Total employment on United States farms during the survey week of October 8-14, 1978 was estimated at 4.06 million workers, 2 percent less than October 1977. Farm operators working one hour or more and unpaid family members working 15 hours or more totaled 2.76 million and hired workers numbered 1.31 million.

COMMODITY PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		Nov. 15 1977	Oct. 15 1978	Nov. 15 1978*	Nov. 15 1977	Oct. 15 1978	Nov. 15 1978*
		Dollars					
Tobacco.....	Lb.	1.168	1.354	1.250	1.166	1.355	1.309
Corn.....	Bu.	2.30	<u>2/</u> 2.31	2.37	1.88	1.97	2.03
Wheat.....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.46	2.99	3.05
Oats.....	Bu.	1.38	<u>2/</u> 1.16	1.21	1.10	1.08	1.16
Barley.....	Bu.	-	-	-	1.82	1.88	1.86
Sorghum Grains.	Cwt.	-	-	-	3.03	3.36	3.45
Soybeans.....	Bu.	5.85	<u>2/</u> 6.22	6.42	5.61	6.26	6.31
Peanuts.....	Lb.	.208	.220	.221	.204	.215	.211
Cotton.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.507	.596	.606
Wool.....	Lb.	-	-	-	.706	.786	.797
Hogs.....	Cwt.	38.70	50.40	48.90	37.80	51.10	46.70
Beef Cattle....	Cwt.	25.40	44.20	45.50	34.30	53.20	51.50
Veal Calves....	Cwt.	32.90	58.70	63.00	36.80	66.60	66.50
Milk Cows.....	Hd.	350.00	440.00	440.00	519.00	689.00	701.00
Com'l. Broilers	Lb.	.210	.240	.245	.213	.248	.247
Turkeys.....	Lb.	.440	.400	.440	.390	.451	.466
Eggs <u>1/</u>	Doz.	.613	.626	.659	.512	.523	.568
Milk, Whlse....	Cwt.	11.20	<u>2/</u> 11.80	11.90	10.20	11.30	11.50
Potatoes.....	Cwt.	6.25	7.35	8.10	3.05	3.03	3.02
Sweet Potatoes.	Cwt.	8.20	5.50	9.00	10.10	7.28	9.42
Apples, Com'l..	Lb.	.110	.112	.130	.124	.136	.139
Hay, All.....	Ton	-	-	-	48.40	47.60	46.40
Alfalfa Hay...	Ton	-	-	-	50.30	50.40	48.70
Other.....	Ton	-	-	-	44.30	40.90	41.00

1/ Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail by farmers. 2/ Revised. * Preliminary.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

TYPE OF FEED	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
	Nov. 15 1977	Oct. 15 1978	Nov. 15 1978	Nov. 15 1977	Oct. 15 1978	Nov. 15 1978
<i>Per Ton - Dollars</i>						
Mixed Dairy Feed	130.00	-	-	123.00	130.00	133.00
14% Protein.....	138.00	144.00	150.00	129.00	138.00	143.00
16% Protein.....	-	149.00	149.00	-	149.00	154.00
18% Protein.....	-	150.00	150.00	-	150.00	156.00
20% Protein.....	193.00	192.00	198.00	189.00	203.00	212.00
32% Protein.....						
Poultry Feeds						
Chick Starter.....	166.00	177.00	187.00	164.00	172.00	178.00
Broiler Grower....	168.00	172.00	183.00	159.00	169.00	174.00
Laying Feed <u>1/</u>	146.00	152.00	160.00	141.00	150.00	154.00
Turkey Grower <u>1/</u> ...	187.00	196.00	199.00	175.00	183.00	185.00
<i>Per 100 Lbs. - Dollars</i>						
Grain By-Products						
Bran.....	7.20	7.60	7.60	6.93	7.28	7.58
Middlings.....	7.00	7.40	7.40	6.82	7.23	7.55
Corn Meal.....	5.70	6.10	6.30	5.30	5.82	5.90
High Protein Feeds						
Cottonseed Meal 41%	12.00	12.00	12.50	10.00	10.90	11.40
Soybean Meal 44%...	11.50	12.50	12.50	11.00	11.80	12.30

1/ Complete ration feeds which are fed without further mixing or supplementations.

CHICK HATCH SLIGHTLY UP

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 30.0 million broiler-type chicks during October 1978. Egg-type chicks at 530 thousand was down 17 percent from October 1977.

For the Nation, the October hatch of broiler-type chicks at 310 million was 7 percent more than October 1977. Egg-type chicks hatched during October 1978 totaled 37.6 million, virtually the same as a year ago.

CHICKS HATCHED -- OCTOBER

STATE	BROILER-TYPE		1978 As % Of	EGG-TYPE		1978 AS % OF
	1977	1978	1977	1977	1978	1977
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>
North Carolina	29,714	29,966	101	635	530	83
South Carolina	3,151	3,600	114	801	691	86
Georgia	41,536	45,993	111	3,470	3,787	109
Florida	7,408	7,811	105	3,106	2,812	91
Delaware	13,793	14,010	102	<i>1/</i>	<i>1/</i>	-
Maryland	16,619	18,248	110	<i>1/</i>	<i>1/</i>	-
Virginia	8,773	10,464	119	284	478	168
UNITED STATES	290,885	309,677	107	37,559	37,648	100

1/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

TURKEY HATCH UP 22 PERCENT

The hatch of 6.35 million turkey poults during October 1978 was 22 percent above a year ago. The hatch of heavy breeds was up 25 percent from October 1977 and the light breed hatch was up 2 percent.

The 10.7 million turkey eggs in incubators on November 1, 1978 were up 36 percent from a year earlier. Eggs

set for heavy breed turkeys were up 35 percent from last year and light breeds were up 52 percent.

Heavy breed turkeys in flocks tested for pullorum-typhoid totaled 376 thousand, an increase of 21 percent from October 1977. Testings for July through October were 1.22 million, up 16 percent from the same period a year ago.

ALL TURKEYS

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	EGGS IN INCUBATORS NOVEMBER 1			POULTS HATCHED DURING OCTOBER		
	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977	1977	1978	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	112	134	120	62	67	108
East North Central	781	1,442	185	532	1,048	197
West North Central	2,372	2,484	105	1,355	1,527	113
South Atlantic	2,980	3,821	128	2,212	2,434	110
South Central	520	1,469	283	254	425	167
West	1,069	1,336	125	798	852	107
UNITED STATES	7,834	10,686	136	5,213	6,353	122

NUMBER OF LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION -- OCTOBER

STATE	LAYERS ON HAND		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		TOTAL EGGS PRODUCED	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>Millions</i>	
North Carolina	13,600	14,575	2,096	2,018	285	294
Virginia	3,726	3,887	2,009	1,987	75	77
South Carolina	5,363	5,458	2,102	2,173	113	119
Georgia	25,505	26,000	1,978	1,965	504	511
Florida	12,821	12,998	2,021	2,021	259	263
UNITED STATES	281,964	282,204	1,989	2,008	5,609	5,668

OCTOBER SLAUGHTER DOWN IN N. C.

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during October totaled 50.0 million pounds live weight, down 5 percent from October a year earlier. The number of head slaughtered decreased 2 percent to 181,500 head.

Cattle slaughter was down 22 percent to 12.0 million pounds live weight. Calf slaughtered dropped 12 percent to 179,000 pounds live weight. Hog kill at 37.8 million pounds live weight increased 2 percent above the previous year. Sheep and lamb slaughtered at 13,000 pounds live weight was 2,000 pounds above October 1977.

The average live weight per head for cattle slaughtered during September was 882 pounds, up 51 pounds from October a year earlier. The average live weight for calves increased 32 pounds to 318. Hog average live weight at 226 pounds was 2 pounds more than a year earlier, while sheep and lamb increased 12 pounds to 120 pounds per head.

Commercial red meat production for North Carolina during October totaled 33.3 million pounds, 3 percent less than October 1977.

Commercial red meat production for the United States in October 1978 totaled 3.35 billion pounds, virtually the same as October 1977. January-October

red meat production at 31.7 billion pounds was 3 percent below last year...change by individual components: beef, down 4 percent; veal, down 22; pork, up 1; lamb and mutton, down 13 percent. Commercial red meat production includes slaughter in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Beef production at 2.10 billion pounds was virtually unchanged. Head kill at 3.41 million was down 4 percent, while average live weight increased 33 pounds to 1,045.

Veal production at 48 million pounds declined 31 percent from a year ago. Calf slaughter of 331 thousand head was down 30 percent and average live weight dropped 15 pounds to 243.

Pork production totaled 1.18 billion pounds, up 2 percent. The 6.84 million head killed was up 1 percent while average live weight increased 3 pounds to 242. Preliminary lard production was 89 million pounds, up 1 percent from last year.

Lamb and mutton production declined 7 percent to 27 million pounds. Head kill at 476 thousand was down 13 percent while average live weight rose 6 pounds to 114.

WORKERS ON FARMS, OCTOBER 8-14, 1978 WITH COMPARISON

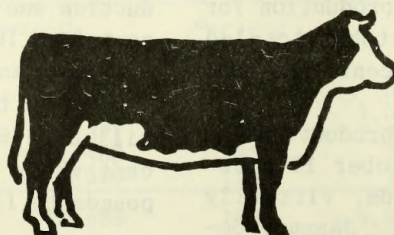
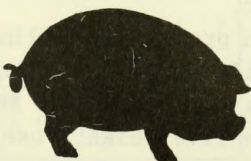
STATE	OCTOBER 9-15, 1977 //			JULY 9-15, 1978 //			OCTOBER 8-14, 1978		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	<i>Thousands</i>								
Alabama	74	51	23	90	65	25	76	50	26
Florida	84	26	58	89	38	51	82	29	53
Georgia	76	50	26	115	52	63	66	41	25
Kentucky	126	99	27	163	118	45	145	101	44
Mississippi	92	53	39	95	54	41	84	52	32
NORTH CAROLINA	121	80	41	270	129	141	122	79	43
South Carolina	45	33	12	82	39	43	41	30	11
Tennessee	130	100	30	126	98	28	129	100	29
REGION IV	748	492	256	1030	593	437	745	482	263
UNITED STATES	4155.9	2839.1	1316.8	4949.5	3114.9	1834.6	4062.8	2756.8	1306.0

// Revised.

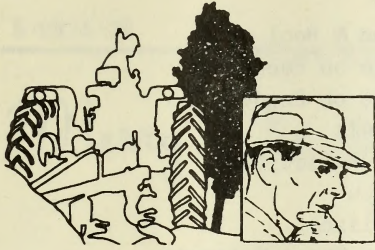
NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER //

SPECIES	OCTOBER				JANUARY THROUGH OCTOBER			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
NORTH CAROLINA								
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	18.5	13.6	15,362	11,966	158.8	127.0	138,259	113,576
Calves	.7	.6	204	179	6.1	4.5	1,415	1,219
Sheep & Lambs	.1	.1	11	13	.5	.7	48	69
Hogs	165.3	167.2	36,968	37,801	1552.8	1594.7	344,000	354,463
TOTAL	184.6	181.5	52,545	49,959	1718.2	1726.9	483,722	469,327
UNITED STATES								
	<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	3.6	3.4	3,597	3,560	34.8	33.2	35,695	34,260
Calves	.5	.3	122	80	4.6	3.6	1,146	868
Sheep & Lambs	.5	.5	59	54	5.4	4.5	582	505
Hogs	6.8	6.8	1,617	1,658	63.6	63.8	15,026	15,216
TOTAL	11.4	11.0	5,395	5,352	108.4	105.1	52,449	50,849

// Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.



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December 26	- Winter Wheat Analysis
December 27	- Hogs & Pigs Analysis
December 28	- Farm Numbers
December 29, 30, 31, January 1	- Agricultural Prices

Paul E. Williams
Agricultural Statistician

Dan C. Tucker
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DECEMBER 1 CROP HIGHLIGHTS

NORTH CAROLINA

Burley production down 13% from last year.

Cotton production near record low, 15% below last year.

UNITED STATES

Burley production up 1% from last year.

Cotton production down 26% from last year.

N. C. BURLEY CROP SMALLER

Burley tobacco production in North Carolina is expected to total 20,400,000 pounds. This is down 1% from last month's forecast and 13% below a year earlier. Yield per acre is forecast at 2,400 pounds, down 50 pounds from a year ago. Acreage harvested is estimated at 8,500 acres down 11% from the 9,600 acres harvested in 1977.

Production of burley tobacco in the U. S. is forecast at 623 million pounds, up fractionally from the November 1 estimate and 1 percent above the previous year's production. Yield per acre is expected to average 2,402 pounds, up from the 2,298 pounds realized in 1977. Burley tobacco auctions opened November 20. The first week of auctions was marked by higher prices and an improved quality over the previous year. Demand for burley was not quite as strong during the second week of the auction but quality remained about the same as opening week.

NOVEMBER GENERAL CONDITION

The weather during November was generally favorable but rainfall was reported below normal. Soil moisture amounts by month's end were near adequate. Rainfall was welcome during the month which aided germination of small grains but hampered some harvesting activities. Small grain seedings progressed well during November and the conditions of the crops was rated fair to mostly good across the state. Soybean harvest at the end of the month was reported three-fourths combined and slightly ahead of last year. Cotton harvest was reported at ninety percent complete about the same as last year. Pasture conditions were mostly fair to good by month's end. Some poor conditions were reported in the Mountain Region.

N. C. COTTON PRODUCTION DOWN

Cotton production in North Carolina is expected to total 45,000 bales this season near the record low level in 1967 of 43,000 bales. This forecast is up 5,000 bales from the November 1 forecast but down 8,000 bales or 15% from the 1977 crop. Growers expect to harvest 43,000 acres, down 52% from a year earlier. The yield per acre is expected to average a record high 502 pounds.

All cotton production in the U. S. is forecast at 10.7 million bales as of December 1, 3 percent below the November 1 forecast and 26 percent below

(See Cotton, Page 3)

1978 OATS CROP LARGER

An estimated 5,225,000 bushels of oats were produced in North Carolina during 1978 from 95,000 acres. This compares with the 3,150,000 bushels from 75,000 acres during 1977. Yields averaged 55 bushels per acre, up 13 bushels from the previous year.

Oats production for the U. S. in 1978 is estimated at 601 million bushels 20 percent less than the 1977 crop of 751 million bushels, but 10 percent above the 1976 crop. The smaller 1978 production was the result of fewer acres being harvested and lower yields. Acres abandoned and used for purposes other than grain accounted for 29.6 percent of the planted acres compared with 24.1 percent for the 1977 crop. Yield per harvested acre averaged 52.2 bushels compared with 55.8 bushels a year earlier.

1978 BARLEY CROP LARGER

North Carolina barley production for 1978 is estimated at 3,009,000 bushels from 59,000 acres. This compares with the 1977 production of 2,200,000 bushels from 55,000 acres. Yields averaged 51 bushels per acre, up 11 bushels from the previous year.

The 1978 production of barley in the U. S. totaled 447 million bushels, 6 percent above 1977 and 20 percent above 1976. The increase in the 1978 crop was the result of record yields per acre offsetting fewer acres harvested for grain.

Acreage harvested for grain is estimated at 9.23 million acres, 3 percent below the 9.56 million acres harvested in 1977. Yield per harvested acre averaged a record 48.4 bushels, 4.5 bushels above last year and 2.6 bushels above the previous record high set in 1971.

MORE RYE THIS YEAR

Farmers in North Carolina produced 460,000 bushels of rye in 1978 compared with 399,000 a year earlier. Acres for harvest at 20,000 were 1,000 acres fewer than in 1977. The average yield per acre at 23 bushels for this 1978 season was 4 bushels more than both the previous year and 1976.

Growers in the U. S. produced 26.2 million bushels of rye in 1978. This is 51 percent larger than last year's 17.3 million bushels and 75 percent larger than the small 1976 crop. Production came from 995 thousand acres, 41 percent greater than 1977's 704 thousand acres. The average yield of 26.3 bushels per harvested acre compares with 24.6 bushels last year. The five States of Georgia, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota produced over 70 percent of the Nation's rye in 1978.

1978 WHEAT CROP SMALLER

Winter wheat production in North Carolina during 1978 totaled 5,940,000 bushels, down 1% from a year earlier and 15% below the 1976 production. Harvested acreage in 1978 at 180,000 was 20,000 acres below the previous year and 60,000 acres below 1976. Yield per acre at 33 this year is 3 bushels higher than last year.

U. S. production of 1.25 billion bushels of winter wheat in 1978 was 19 percent less than the 1977 crop of 1.54 billion bushels. Farmers harvested 38.9 million acres, 20 percent less than in 1977. Average yield of 32.1 bushels was a half bushel better than a year ago. Winter wheat made good progress to maturity although lagging last year's early maturity progress.

NOVEMBER MILK PRODUCTION DOWN

Milk production in North Carolina during November totaled an estimated 129 million pounds, down 7 percent from production in November 1977. Pounds of milk produced per cow was estimated at 900 pounds, down 20 pounds from a year

earlier. The number of milk cows on farms, including dry cows was estimated at 143,000 head, 5 percent less than November 1977.

U. S. milk production totaled

(See Milk, Page 4)

COTTON (Cont'd. From Page 1)

1977. Expected production consists of 10.6 million bales of Upland cotton and 83.1 thousand bales of American-Pima. Cottonseed production in 1978, based on a three year average lint-seed ratio, is forecast at 4.13 million tons, 25 percent below 1977.

Growers expect to harvest 12.3 million acres of all cotton this year, 7 percent below 1977. Average lint yield per harvested acre is forecast at 418 pounds, 102 pounds below 1977.

Texas and Oklahoma Upland cotton production is forecast at 3.97 million bales for 1978, a decrease of one-third from last year. The crop has reached maturity, but a late freeze and un-

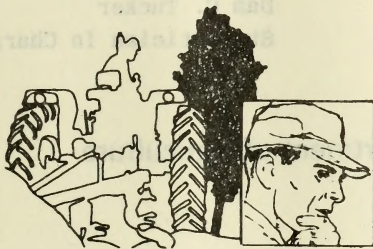
favorable weather have delayed harvesting activities.

In the Delta States (Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Missouri) the cotton crop is expected to produce 2.94 million bales, 23 percent below 1977, but 1 percent above the November 1 forecast.

Production in the southeastern States (Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, and North Carolina) is expected to total 550 thousand bales, up 6 percent from 1977 and up 1 percent from the November 1 forecast.

The Bureau of the Census reports 6,677,853 running bales ginned to December 1 compared with 11,710,550 bales ginned to the same date in 1977 and 7,657,829 bales in 1976.

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MILK (Cont'd. From Page 1)

9.40 billion pounds, down fractionally from November 1977. Accumulated production for January-November of 1978 was 113 billion pounds, down 1 percent from last year, but 2 percent above

the same period in 1976.

Production per cow averaged 869 pounds, 8 pounds more than a year earlier and 33 pounds more than November 1976. Total milk cows averaged 10.8 million head, off 1 percent from last year.

MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION -- NOVEMBER 1978

STATE	Milk Cows On Farms <u>L/</u>	Milk Per Cow	MILK PRODUCTION	
			Pounds	1978 As % Of 1977
	<i>Thousands</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Millions</i>	<i>Percent</i>
NORTH CAROLINA..	143	900	129	93
Virginia.....	172	900	155	100
Maryland.....	134	905	122	98
Georgia.....	129	830	107	101
Florida.....	197	775	153	100
UNITED STATES...	10,820	869	9,404	100

L/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

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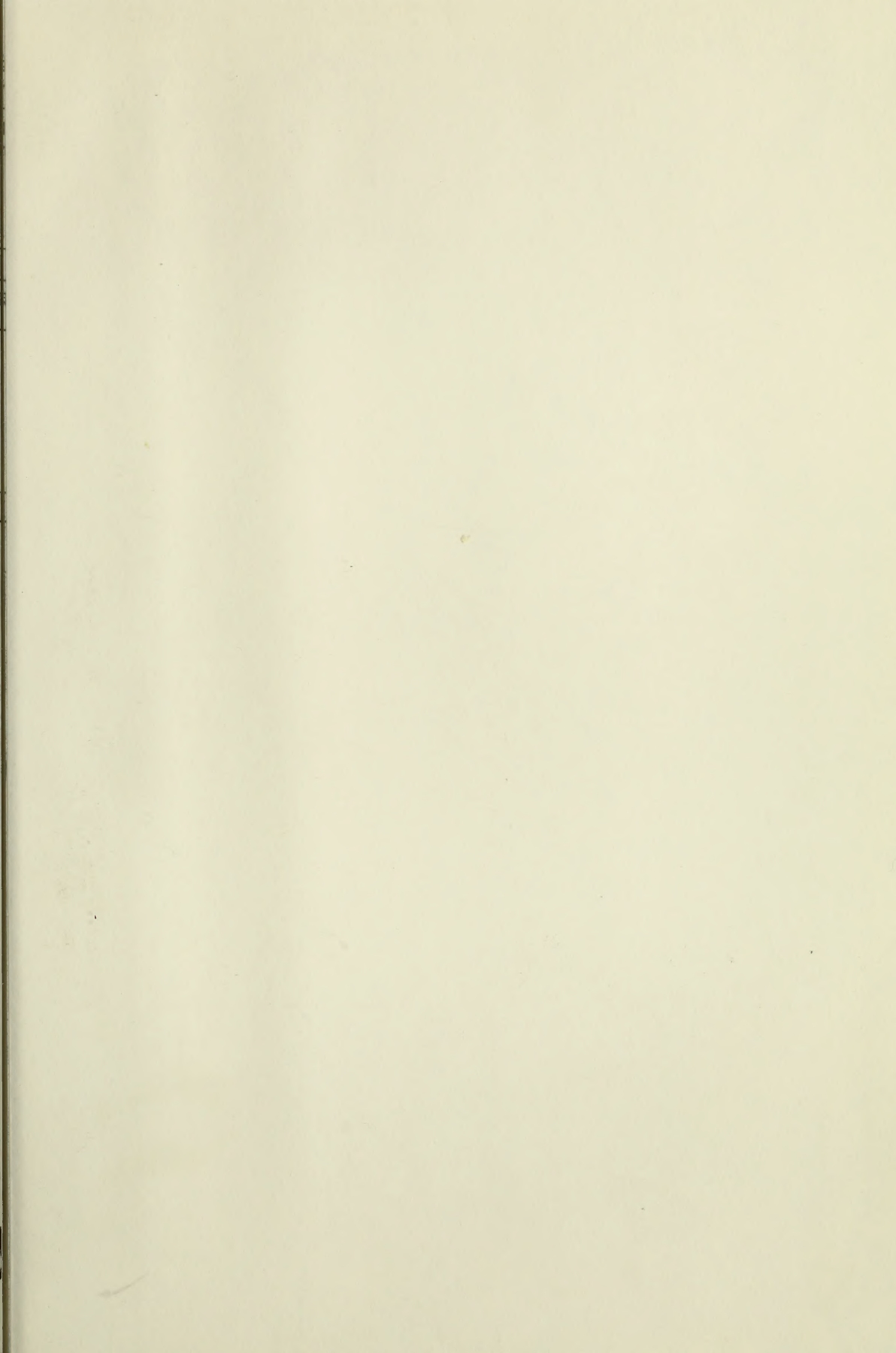
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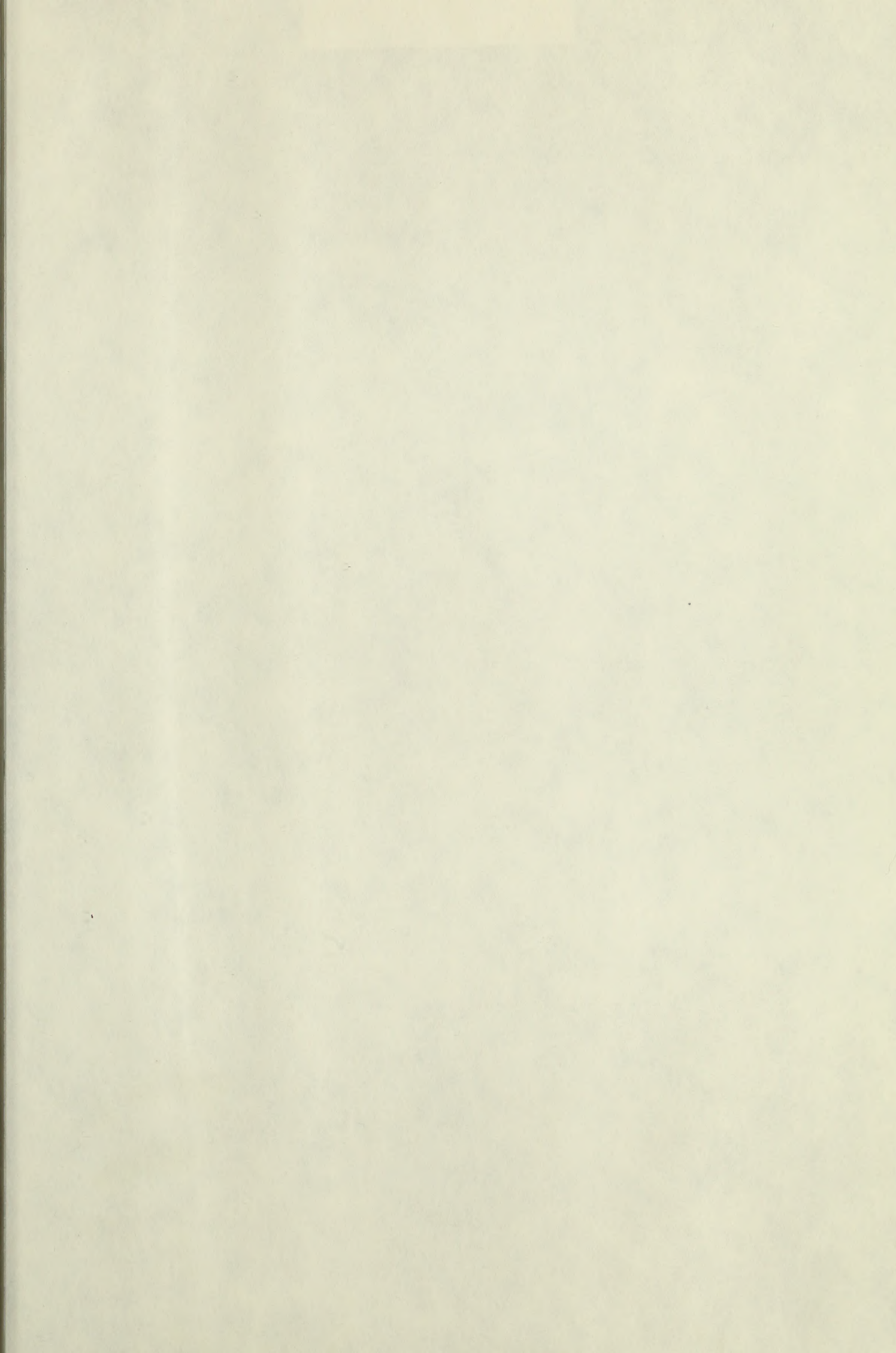
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